

The following National Register of Historic Places form was prepared for inventory documentation purposes only; the property has not been nominated to the National Register.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DRAFT

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Dominic's Catholic Church

other names B-5133

2. Location

street & number 5300 - 5310 Harford Road

☐ not for publication

city or town Baltimore

☐ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Baltimore City code 510 zip code 21214

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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St. Dominic's Catholic Church
Name of Property

B-5133

Baltimore City, MD
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 6 | 1 | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| 6 | 1 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register**

zero

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/ religious facility

RELIGION/ church-related residence

RELIGION/ church school

EDUCATION/ school

TRANSPORTATION/ road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/ religious facility

RELIGION/ church-related residence

RELIGION/ parish office? no "other" subcategory??

TRANSPORTATION/ road-related

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS

LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN

NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/Granite

walls STONE/Granite

roof OTHER

other STONE/Granite

CONCRETE

(continued)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

St. Dominic's Catholic Church
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 82,155 square feet

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | Zone | Easting | Northing |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| 3 | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 4 | Zone | Easting | Northing |

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lisa Jensen Wingate

Organization _____

date 10/06

street & number _____

telephone _____

city or town _____

state _____

zip code _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF BALTIMORE

street & number 5300-5310 Harford Road

telephone 410-426-0354

city or town Baltimore

state MD

zip code 21214

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ B Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☒ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

RELIGION

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1906 – 1959

Significant Dates

1906

1907

1916

(continued...)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Tormey, Francis E.

Carroll, T. George

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

B-5133
St. Dominic's Catholic Church

Name of Property

Baltimore City, Maryland

County and State

Description Summary:

+ The St. Dominic Catholic Church campus clearly depicts a unified scheme through its architecture. The six contributing structures, all of similar, locally quarried stone, were erected during the first half-century of the St. Dominic Parish operation on this site (1907 through 1957) on an "L-shaped" lot facing Harford Road in the 5300 block. The architecture is vernacular, but with stylistic references from Norman (Church) to Western Arts and Crafts (Lower Elementary School entry) to Classical Revival/Beaux Arts (Convent/Parish Office), as well as the more conventional American Foursquare Rectory. The buildings display thoughtful planning and substantial construction utilized by the Parish from its 1906 inception through its peak membership mid-century. The buildings are well maintained and reflect the viability of the Parish at its centennial celebration this year. While changes, such as the replacement of most window sash and the roofing of the Rectory have taken place, these alterations are minimal as compared to the overall retention of architectural integrity of the campus.

General Description:

+ Site

The campus of St. Dominic's Catholic Church is sited on a prominent rise along the NW side of Harford Road, spanning between Echodale Avenue to the south and Gibbons Avenue to the north. Harford Road is a commercial strip with residential neighborhoods behind the commercial enterprises. Once a major market road connecting the northeast countryside to the city of Baltimore, this road is still a busy arterial spoke, punctuated with traffic lights, and serving as a corridor between the beltway suburbs and the city. The heart of Hamilton, as the community is called, is one block north of St. Dominic's at the intersection of Harford Road and Hamilton Avenue. The National Register historic district of Lauraville is immediately to the south. The "L"-shaped campus of is bounded by a 20' angled alley and the parcel was extended west from Harford Road into the early 20th Century residential neighborhood behind.

The St. Dominic's Catholic Church campus is most readily identified by its unifying, locally quarried, gray granite building stone,¹ set predominantly in random ashlar blocks with raised flat mortar joints. Visually picking up on the stone base of the Rectory porch and the water table band of the Church at the north end, a stepped, granite retaining wall along the southern portion of the campus enhances the unified effect. The Convent/Parish Office and an asphalt lot are set above the stone retaining wall at the south end. In the middle, the Upper and Lower Elementary Schools are set back from the road behind an open space that is now a parking lot. Green pantile and replacement green compositeshingle roofing, limestone trim, exposed rafter tails, and stained glass are other features found on the campus. Three of the six contributing buildings on site were connected in the late 1950s during an expansion program.

¹ "The campus and architecture are unified by the use of local quarry stone." Eric Holcomb. *City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore Since 1960*. (Sante Fe: Center for American Places, 2005), p. 179.

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St. Dominic's Catholic Church

Name of Property

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The Church

The Church, originally 60' x 110', was constructed of rock-faced, random, ashlar stone in a limited range of tans and grays. A projecting water table defines the raised first floor level and ties the 1925 additions along the sides to the original 1907 church, although the water table is not continued around the mid-1950s addition at the western end. A projecting, pedimented arch focuses attention on the main entrance. Projecting imposts accent the height of the transom bar above the double-leaf, glass main doors. The doors are modern glass doors, and the transom area is a stucco-like material decorated with a glazed cross. Subtle alternating color emphasize the stone voussoirs of the circular and arched windows, doors, and belfry openings. The windows are rectangular, arched and round, and made of colorful glass in a variety of designs. A large rose window dominates the front façade, the center of its tracery changed from the original flower-like pattern² when the stained glass was installed. Exterior storm sash protect the windows.

A contemporary source describes the architectural style employed by architect T. George Carroll in his single gable design of the church as Norman.³ The south tower is finished with crenellation above the third level. At the lower level, the façade is symmetrically balanced, but attention is drawn to the taller, north corner tower. The north tower is made more prominent at the base with its "1907" date stone and projecting buttresses, supporting the tower, set at 45-degree angles to the structure, lending Gothic styling to the building. A statue of St. Dominic rests in an arched niche at the third floor level. The most dominant feature of the façade, however, is the top of the north tower: a fourth-floor open belfry with paired arches on each side atop a stringcourse, capped with a hipped roof with exposed rafter tails and flared eaves, topped with a gilded cross.

The stone walls of the church extend above the cross-gable slate roof at the gable ends, while the eaves of both the bell tower and gables are finished off with exposed, decoratively cut rafter tails. The gray slate is highlighted with two decorative horizontal bands in alternating rows of scalloped profile, gray and creamy-colored slate. The hipped tower of the north tower has a creamy-colored, six-pointed star on each face, referring to St. Dominic.

Less than twenty years after its initial construction, the growing Parish needed most seating and hired architect Francis E. Tormey to widen the nave. His 1925 design⁴ for cross-gables widened the church by 12' on both sides, expanding its capacity. The size of the additions was constrained to the north by the property line and to the south by the Rectory. On the north side, an octagonal turrets with sandstone caps accentuate the cross-gable corners and the peak of the parapet supports another cross. A one-and-

² See 1907 photo of church.

³ "Cornerstone Laid," *Catholic Mirror*, May 1907.

⁴ Five pages of his drawings for St. Dominic's Church can be found in the Maryland Historical Society Museum.

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a-half story entry vestibule, originally designed by Tormey to be a confessional box, projects from the north side of the building, tucked into the cross gable corner, and a similar volume was tucked into the south corner. On the cornice of this small projection at the SE corner, there is a small amount of cementitious simulated masonry.⁵

The profile of the building steps back with the 1950s additions that take advantage of the offset angle of the lot, as defined by Gibbons Avenue. The large scale of the addition is visually diminished by breaking up the overall volume into smaller entities, and stepping the 36' taller portion away from Gibbons Avenue. The western end (sacristy) and the section closest to Gibbons Avenue (side chapel and confessionals) have a height of only 22' and the rectangular windows have translucent colored glass. On the south side, a one-story section spans the area between the back of the Rectory and the front of the Upper Elementary School in a small, asphalt paved courtyard.

The mid-1950s addition has a much greater range of stone colors than the other buildings on the campus, expanding the palate from the original church's grays through a wider variety of brown and gray tones, as well as shapes, such as trapezoidal blocks of stone with one angled side. The 1950s addition offers many colored glass windows, but multi-colored arches are used only to light the main sanctuary. The doors are wood, painted light with ten, evenly spaced, small, square panes of glass.

Inside the church, there is rabbeted wainscoting, stained and varnished, 4'-5' high, around the perimeter of the pre-1950s portion. The floor is carpeted along the aisles, and tiled under the seating areas. There are approximately 50 rows of wooden pews with carved ends and kneeling rails in the nave. Although the ends of the pews are numbered with small brass plates, the numbering pattern is inconsistent. At the rear of the church, the plastered piers that support the beams at the position of the original exterior walls have gilded Ionic capitals with cherub faces below on the front and backs of the piers, and egg and dart molding. That detailing was lost on the front piers during the mid-1950s westward expansion of the church, as were the frescos behind the altars. The ceiling of the original church is an elliptical barrel vault, trimmed with crown molding, has been repainted several times; it is now polychrome with a light blue background.

The wooden stairs to the choir loft and the belfry are in the north tower. The original organ and its pipes are in the choir loft over the entry vestibule. It appears as though the choir loft was extended over the nave, as it crosses in front of the first stained glass window on each side of the building. The second organ is played from the front of the church, but its sound is still produced by the original organ pipes in the rear loft.

⁵ Often called by trade names such as "Formstone" and "Perma-Stone."

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The pews of the 1950s nave are modeled on those in the earlier section of the church. The ceiling is a higher segmental arch, also painted in polychrome. The altars are made of white marble, as is the balustrade that extends across the nave and beyond into the lower ceiling section, wrapping around a small chapel there. These balustrade sections appear to have been relocated from their original positions when the nave was extended. The tabernacle has been removed from the main altar, and set aside within the sacristy.

There are four confessionals along the Gibbons Avenue side, north of the 1950s portion of the nave. Wide terrazzo steps in the NW corner lead downstairs to the auxiliary chapel. Brick lines the lower level walls. Another organ and two pianos are located in this lower chapel. Parishioners are able to hear the service and the music produced above. Air conditioning was added with the 1950s expansion, introduced under the nave's crawl space.

Between the Church and the Rectory stands a Gaelic cross of Barre granite. This memorial to Father John B. Manley was erected in 1941, and is surrounded by a balustrade of Indiana limestone.⁶

The Rectory

The Rectory displays the following features typical of American Foursquare houses:⁷

- Simple box shape
- Two-and-a-half stories in height -- 25'⁸
- Four-room floor plan (originally, although extended twice)
- Boxy foursquare shape that provided roomy interiors on a small lot
- Low-hipped roof with deep overhang
- Large central dormers
- Full-width porch

The American Foursquare style has the reputation for offering the most house for the least amount of money, a characteristic likely to have appealed to Father Manley's selfless nature. What differentiates this dwelling from typical American Foursquare and Bungalow house designs is its entirely masonry

Father Manley was the founder of the parish, priest, builder of the church, school, convent and rectory. "Father Manley Memorial blessed at St. Dominic's," *Catholic Review*. 10 October 1941.

⁷ <http://architecture.about.com/od/periodsstyles/ig/House-Styles/Foursquare.htm>

⁸ 1953 *Sanborn Map of Baltimore City*, Vol. 11, p. 1116.

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construction (stone closely matching the Church, but more uniformly gray that sparkles in direct sun), and its size, both in its width and much deeper length, more generous than most. Even the full width front porch is stone with base, balustrade, and piers built of the same granite, an unusual construction feature. The porch floor is concrete with inlaid red and green quarry tiles.

The Rectory also displays Arts and Crafts, or Craftsman,⁹ features, such as:

- Wide eaves
- Exposed roof rafters (now covered with siding)
- Porch with thick square columns
- Stone porch supports
- Exterior chimneys (two) made of stone
- Some windows with stained or leaded glass
- Dark wood wainscotting and moldings
- Built-in cabinets

Almost all the windows are now 1/1 vinyl replacements. The front porch fenestration has been changed from its original configuration;¹⁰ standard, double-hung sash have replaced what appear to have been full-height windows or doors, flanked by smaller windows.

Although the roofing material, the windows, and the eaves have been altered, the house maintains its overall integrity. As originally constructed, the dwelling had a pantile roof.¹¹ The use of pantile was repeated subsequently on the covered entries to the Lower School and the Convent roof. Now the roof is green composite asphalt shingles, and vinyl covers the eaves of both the main and porch roofs, obscuring the original exposed rafter tails. The slope of the porch roof is steeper than most, almost matching the hipped roof above.¹²

⁹ The word "Craftsman" came to mean any house that expressed Arts and Crafts ideals, most especially the simple, economical, and extremely popular Bungalow, but also the American Foursquare, as seen in this example.

¹⁰ Originally, the front windows were tripartite, multi-paned casement. See photo of Rectory and Church from *Parish of St. Dominic: Golden Jubilee 1906-1956*. n.p.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² The characteristics of pantile may have necessitated the steeper slope design, although its presence cannot be verified by the 1950s photo of Rectory and Church from *Parish of St. Dominic: Golden Jubilee*. n.p.

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There is a hipped dormer on the front of the hipped roof; the window space is filled with a ventilation grille, a feature already in place by the 1950s. On the north side of the roof is a shed-roofed dormer. Along the south side of this house, a two-and-a-half story high bay window adds a Queen Anne style element that breaks the common Foursquare form by extending up past the eaves. The bay window extends above the main roof with a small horizontal attic window, also typical of Queen Anne styling in that it has colored panes of glass surrounding a center pane, and a five-sided roof. The oriel at the SW corner of the main structure was altered with applied vinyl siding, as were the eaves and the opening for the original back porch below the oriel.

Two, two-story additions have extended the depth of the dwelling to the rear. The first was almost full width and constructed of a very similar stone. Clearly, the second addition was part of the mid 1950s expansion of the church; this addition uses the same lively colored and patterned stonework, and connects the Rectory to the Church. Although the second addition is of the same two-story height and shares a parapeted flat roof with the first addition, the second extension is two bays wide on the second floor. A light fixture and pair of double-leaf doors, matching those on the church, now serve as the first-floor back door to the Rectory.

The plan of this house differs from most American Foursquare dwellings by having its entry shifted away from front porch to angled stairs on the side that lead visitors up to an exterior stone vestibule, recessed behind the facades of the Rectory and the Church.¹³ Following typical American Foursquare house plans of the era, one front corner of the first floor is devoted to the reception hall and staircase, the opposite front corner used for a living room or office with dining room behind, and kitchen tucked behind the reception hall. One of the small rooms in the addition is a TV room. There are four bedrooms on the second floor, as well as shared common area. The attic is unfinished.

Borrowing from Craftsman styling, there is Art Glass in the entry door transom and sidelights and in the staircase window. In the dining room, there is built-in cabinetry with triple pairs of plain doors below and glass above. The floors are 2" wide oak, although some are covered. The trim throughout is typical of the era's styling with 5" wide casing, rounded at both edges, topped by a tiered lintel. The kitchen has simple, built-in cabinets and vinyl flooring.

Stone Garage

The one-story, one-car garage has a crenellated roofline around three sides. The garage door faces south onto the alley as it makes its bend. There is a small, high, six-pane window on the north end and a pedestrian doorway boarded up with plywood on the west side. Contemporary the Rectory, the stone of the garage is the same more grayish hue than the livelier color range of the other structures.

¹³ This feature was shown on F.E. Tormey's 1925 site plan, so it is assumed to be original.

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The Lower Elementary School

The wide stone structure, primarily seen from the east, is 140' wide, 60' deep, and 40' tall. It was constructed on a gentle grade sloping downhill to the north. The 1953 Sanborn Map described the south end as two stories, plus basement, while indicating approximately 2/3 at the north end as three stories. On the exterior, the difference in grade translates in the increasing length of the lower story windows in this banked building. The replacement window sash at ground level are four, five, and six panes high across the width of the façade to accommodate the change in grade.

The grouped windows above the covered entries clearly define the stair tower/restroom bays at the ends of the building. Although the building is nine bays wide, it is not exactly symmetrical: the fourth bay is narrower than the others, and the name plate is set above the third floor between bays six and seven. The flagpole is centered. Apparently, the northern six bays were constructed in 1919, and the school was extended to the south in 1927.¹⁴

The middle and upper level floor replacement windows are tri-partite with five horizontal panes topped by a panel set between mullions. When originally constructed, these windows had 12/12 pane configurations.¹⁵ The lower floor windows were once double-hung sash with three vertical panes in each sash.¹⁶

The original crenellated roofline has been filled and the parapet flashed between piers. There are small gable entry porches supported by stone piers and balustrades at each end of the east façade, the northern one having additional steps. The porch roofing is terra cotta pantile, painted green to match the Convent roofing. Another entrance at grade a half-story below serves the lowest (auditorium) level at the north end. This portico has a pantile shed roof, but the wood above the painted masonry caps of the stone piers and the exposed rafter tails are decoratively cut and exposed in a Western Arts and Crafts style.¹⁷ The decorative ends of these rafter tails refer back to those of the Rectory eaves and the rafters of the Church's north tower as well. The portico flooring is composed of decorative, small, white tiles with a pale blue pattern around the perimeter. The corner stone facing north at the east corner says "1919".

The windows at the west end of the north façade have been closed, and the stacked bathrooms within are mechanically vented. Some of the windows on the south end has also been covered over.

On the ground floor, accessed from the outside at the north end, is the school assembly hall, also called the auditorium. The long room, running the length of the building from one stair tower to the other, has a vinyl tile floor, and plaster bulkheads subdivide the ceiling. The lowest bulkhead occurs at the point

¹⁴ One of F.E. Tormey's 1925 architectural drawings is a site plan showing the "school house" as approximately 80' long.

¹⁵ Photo, *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee*.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ A la Greene and Greene, combining the simple wooden architecture of China and Japan with Craftsman pergola style detailing.

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where the original building ended. The room's most notable feature is the stage at the south end: its proscenium is decorated with scrolled brackets in the upper corners.

The floor of the staircase halls at each end and the middle level central hallway is 4"x4" terra cotta quarry tile that appears to be contemporary with the school's construction. On the upper level, there is a shiny terrazzo floor. There is 4" x 4" almond-colored tile wainscoting lining the central halls on the second and third stories. The hallway and classroom doors, two per room, are wooden with three horizontal panels below and four panes of glass above. There are large twelve-pane transoms above the double doors separating the classroom hallways from the end staircases that provide natural light into the hallways. Dropped panel ceilings in the hallways cover the original plaster. All the light fixtures are fluorescent.

Within the carpeted classrooms flanking the central hallways, there are ceiling fans in lieu of central air conditioning. Wood-trimmed blackboards with eraser ledges line the walls and the partitions separate the coat storage areas from the classrooms proper.

The Upper Elementary School

The three-story school, approximately 56' wide x 100' deep, built in 1935, has its own architectural character, appearing more austere, modern and sleek than the other buildings. While the overall gray, with some brown color range of the granite is similar to that of the Church, the cut of the individual stones is different. While there is texture to the cut of the each stone, the overall surface is smoother. Some individual stones cut in trapezoidal shapes with one angled side were used for the first time on the campus, a pattern repeated with even more diverse colors in the mid-1950s expansion of the church.

The front and back doors of this building are located on the narrow ends of the rectangular footprint, and these facades face east and west. On both ends of the building, the staircase bays are indented from the full width, creating a narrower façade profile at first glance. The center bay of these two façades projects slightly from the building and offers a sculptural counterpoint to the boxy mass. The doors are set deep with the segmental arch reveal. The double-leaf wooden doors have a four-pane light on top and four panels below.¹⁸ The segmental arch transom above the doors has five vertical panes. At the front doors, the asphalt comes directly up to the entry steps, while at the back entrance, a short step of concrete steps provide access from the slightly lower elevation of the rear parking and play area.

At the front and back, a tall limestone cross dominates the projecting central bay, and separates the pair of narrow windows on the second floor. Large, slightly recessed panels with crenellated tops refer to the feature found on the Church's south tower and the original roofline of the Lower Elementary School. Within each of these large panels is a small, sculptured limestone panel with a crest and Latin motto.

¹⁸ These same doors appear in photo from the taken before the Church was expanded. *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee.*

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The 1950s addition to the Church overlaps the front façade, obscuring the entire north end of the first floor facade, including the original date stone.¹⁹ On the second floor, the church addition is set back to abut, but not cover, the sculptural limestone crest within the crenellated panel.

Originally constructed as two stories tall,²⁰ the Parish added a third story, maintaining the footprint, construction materials, and fenestration pattern of the original below. The break is defined by a limestone band. Above the peaked parapet of the projecting center bays, front and back, three narrow windows at the top level provide light into the circulation spaces. Like the Lower Elementary School, the staircases are clearly defined at the ends of the building's longer elevations with narrow bays and windows that span floor levels. On the long sides of the school building, two sets of five double-hung windows with limestone sills provide daylight into the classrooms on each floor. The original 6/6 windows were replaced approximately ten years ago with 1/1, dark aluminum, thermopane units with false panels above. Double-leaf, eight-panel, wooden doors provide access to the basement at the SW corner.

Inside, like the plan of the Lower Elementary School, the end bays provide space for the restrooms and circulation stairs. The stair railings are metal. Solid panels with open circles fill the bottom half, but the upper half is open below the handrail. The stairway doors and second floor doors are original: nine light over two horizontal panels. They too have a varnish finish, over a slightly darker, medium stain. The transoms above the original doors are all multipaned: two rows of four panes over single doors and two rows of eight panes over the double-leaf doors at the ends of the central hallways.

The center hallway floors on the first and third levels are vinyl tile, while the second floor hall and stairway landings retain the original 6" x 6" terra cotta quarry tile. Like the Lower Elementary School, the walls of the second floor and stairways have almond tile wainscoting above the terra cotta quarry tile base. The first and third floors of the Upper Elementary School look similar. The flush, varnished oak doors, one for each classroom, have a single, square light in the top half and a large, single-pane transom above. While the classroom ceilings are high and plastered, panels dropped to the height of the transoms cover the central hallway ceilings. Carpeting obscures the maple floors of the classrooms and offices. Wood-framed blackboards grace each classroom, and floor-to-ceiling partitions provide a coatroom at the end of each classroom.

The walls are plastered and the windows wells are splayed (no sills). The building is heated with steam radiators, powered by a boiler shared with the church. The building has florescent lights, ceiling fans, and no air conditioning. The first floor has three classrooms and the fourth area is divided for office space. Upstairs, there are four classrooms on each level.

¹⁹ Seen in photo taken before the Church was expanded.

²⁰ See 1935 drawings.

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The Convent – now Parish Offices

The southernmost building on the site was constructed in 1931 as a convent, and later converted to offices. Like the others on this campus, the 36' tall, three-story structure is random, rock-faced, ashlar granite with limestone trim. This building, however, has elements of formal classicism and Colonial Revival and Beaux Arts styling.

The shallow, hipped roof is green pantile, reflecting the original roofing material used on the Rectory and the porches of the Lower Elementary School. There are also eyebrow dormers,²¹ one above the narrow end façade and three on the deeper sides, that play off the use of dormers on the Rectory. The limestone modillions just below the eaves provide a visual reference to the exposed rafter tails of the Lower Elementary School porches, Rectory, and Church, as does the limestone band above the second floor align with those found on the school buildings.

The central bay of the three-bay façade projects slightly forward up to the level of the limestone band. Although its prominence is undeniable, this central doorway on the east side of the building facing Harford Road is no longer used as the primary entrance. The boldy trimmed, Palladian motif, limestone archway is borne by both engaged piers and columns with composite capitals. Above this element, scrolled brackets support a balustrade implying a balcony, but actually the railing is set below a pair of once-arched second floor windows. Atop the second floor pair of limestone arches is an oval medallion. These elements provide a sense of formal classicism to the building, as do the brackets and panels below the first floor windows. Even the smaller third floor windows set above the limestone band harken back to the upper floor demarcation of a Palladian-like villa.

Set back within the Palladian arch doorway is a modern, aluminum and glass screen. A locked glass door now provides weather protection for the front vestibule. The vestibule was originally open to the exterior, its floor 6" x 6" black and white marble tile with white marble border and wainscoting. The original doorway, recessed behind the vestibule, has sidelights over panels flanking a wooden door and a fanlight transom.

On the north side of the building, a pedimented Classical Revival doorway with flanking, engaged, composite capital columns provides access from the parking lot instead. Again, an aluminum and glass storm door provides weather and security protection for the fanlight transom and wooden door. Three arched stained glass windows, trimmed in limestone with limestone panels below mark the location of the Convent's chapel. A similar window can be found on the south side of the building between floor

²¹ While most commonly associated with Shingle Style architecture, eyebrow dormers are features in Colonial Revival and Bungalow architecture as well.

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levels marking the staircase. The existing 1/1 sash are replacements for the original ten-pane, double-leaf casement windows.²²

A large, engaged, stone chimney rises along the south side near the west end. The Convent is of "fire-proof construction with non-combustible ceilings"²³ and 16"-thick walls. The rear addition (date pre-1953) is block and frame with concrete floors and stone facing.²⁴ Although the stone of this rear addition is a gray granite, its lighter color stands out. While continuing the basic fenestration pattern, it lacks the quality, architectural detailing of the original Convent. The almost flat roof above the open third floor porch lacks distinction. There is a metal fire escape on the west (rear) end of the structure.

Inside the north vestibule, the marble wainscoting, approximately four feet high, is white with black veining. The floor is carpeted and the walls and full-height ceiling are plastered. Adjacent areas, such as the receptionist's office, main hall, and chapel have dropped ceilings. The chapel has a patterned floor composed of small tile; three, arched, stained glass windows on the north side, and a polished stone step, balustrade and altar. Offices flank what was the main entrance.

Along the south side is a meeting room that was once the Convent's dining room, featuring a built-in corner cupboard with clear leaded glass. This meeting room is connected to the kitchen with 4"x4" terra cotta tile flooring typical of the 1930s, but the kitchen itself has been updated in the interim. At the west end of the kitchen, the doorway leading to the addition was once the exterior doorway; the structural distinction between the original stone wall and the concrete block of the addition is obvious in the doorway. The addition at the rear serves as a multi-purpose room with a laundry sink at the north end of the room.

The main stair has carpeted steps and the railing is a combination of metal balustrade with square newels and stained, wooden rail. There is an arched, stained glass window at the landing between floors.

The second floor and third floors were once used as bedroom quarters for the nuns, and now serve as offices. A double-loaded corridor runs the length of the building. At the front (east end), there are transoms over the hall doors; west of the stairs, the doors are plain with no transoms. At the west end of the second floor in the addition, there is a sitting room once used by the resident nuns. The walls and ceiling are plastered.

The individual bathrooms found on all three floors are timepieces of seventy-year-old plumbing fixtures and tile. The floors display small black and white tiles in a woven pattern, while black banding caps the

²² An undated photo of the north side, probably taken in the 1930s or 1940s and found in the Parish Office archives, shows the original windows, including the eight-pane single casements for the bathrooms, as backdrop for the Parish band.

²³ 1953 *Sanborn Map*, Vol. 11, p. 1116.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

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white, brick-shaped, wall tile wainscoting. The built-in tubs have curved corners, and some of the wall-hung sinks appear to be original.

Each of the individual bedrooms on the third floor has their own small, wall-hung sink. Many of the doors retain the nameplates of their last resident. The rooms are simple with an overhead light and a small closet with plain door of stained, veneered wood. Along the third floor hallway ceiling, the air conditioning ductwork is exposed. Before its installation, the Sisters of Charity retreated to the west end during hot weather, where the addition provides a generous veranda with 6"x6" terra cotta tile flooring and a stone balustrade for privacy.²⁵

Non-contributing Garage

A concrete block garage, located at the alley at the south end of the site, fails to contribute architecturally to the character of the historic district of the campus.

Addresses:

St. Dominic's Catholic Church – 5310 Harford Road

Rectory 5308 Harford Road

Garage

Lower Elementary School – 5304 Harford Road

Upper Elementary School – 5306 Harford Road

Convent/Parish Office – 5302 Harford Road

Materials (continued)

Peter, Should these go here?

roof ASPHALT
TERRA COTTA

other STONE/Limestone
ASPHALT
TERRA COTTA

²⁵ Reportedly, the Sisters would hang their habits and laundry out to dry on this porch.

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Summary Statement of Significance:

+ The campus of St. Dominic's Catholic Church contains a collection of six contributing buildings, along with one non-contributing garage, that utilizes distinctive granite construction. It is for the architectural significance of the campus that this historic district is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. While many other churches were constructed in the burgeoning suburbs of Baltimore, it is the cohesive collection of church, rectory, school, and convent, all located within a tightly defined site, and all constructed of substantial materials with an eye for detail that sets St. Dominic's campus apart from its peers. In taking into account Criterion Consideration A, this religious property is eligible as it derives its primary significance from its architectural character, as well as its historical significance. St. Dominic's Catholic Church has played a vital role in the local Catholic community for a full century, and with its outreach and social functions, that role extended into the larger Hamilton community. This process began as the rural community was being transformed into the urban corridor it is today, earning St. Dominic's its place of significance in the settlement and continuing viability of the Hamilton community. St. Dominic's Catholic Church illustrates the broad impact of a religious institution on the history of a local area in many ways, including its enormous popularity for both church and elementary school, and the direct spawning of two other parishes from the missionary work conducted in Hamilton. Its local historic significance is recognized in terms such as "lifeblood" and "keystone of the Hamilton community".

Resource History and Historic Context:

+ St. Dominic's Catholic Church:

Keystone of Hamilton's Religious and Community Life from 1906 to 1959

CONTEXT

In 1888, Baltimore annexed land in the northeast from Baltimore County²⁶, prompting an acceleration of the suburbanization trend that had already begun. In examining the role of St. Dominic's within the community, it is significant to note the increase in local population was reflected in "The greatest number of churches erected in the 20 years between 1888 and 1908 were for the Catholics who moved to new neighborhoods of Baltimore and Washington or the villages just beyond."²⁷

²⁶ Holcomb, Eric. *City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore Since 1960*. Sante Fe: Center for American Places, 2005. p. 130.

²⁷ Thomas W. Spalding. *The Premier See: A History of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, 1789-1989*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989. p. 277.

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In 1898, shortly before St. Dominic's Parish was founded, the land upon which it was established was shown as P. Gebb's land²⁸ with no cross street to the north until Hamilton Avenue. The area was in the rural ring, part of Baltimore's market zone with garden plots averaging one to ten acres in size.²⁹ At the end of the 19th century, Hamilton was considered a "crossroad village",³⁰ but by the beginning of the 20th century, Hamilton's population doubled in just three years³¹, warranting the creation of its own neighborhood association in 1904.³² Rallying around locally significant issues,

"In 1906, The Northeast Community Association fought for the extension of the Baltimore County and Electric Company lines to service Hamilton...the lines were not extended and Hamiltonians still relied on well water until the 1920s."³³

Lacking a local Catholic church, in the spring of 1906, a delegation of prominent laymen from the proposed parish called on Cardinal Gibbons and presented him with a petition of 90 signatures.³⁴ Cardinal Gibbons sent Father John Baptist Manley to start the parish NE of Baltimore City in June 1906, and so St. Dominic's Catholic Church was established to serve the Catholic people living in what later became Carney, Hamilton, Lauraville, and Parkville.³⁵

Before selecting the site for the church, mass was celebrated every Sunday a block away in the public hall in Hamilton.³⁶ The first Mass was celebrated on July 1, 1906, offered by the appointed pastor, Fr. Manley. According to Fr. Manley's handwritten notes in his journal, over 200 were present for early July mass, and yet the plate collection amounted to only \$14.85. Fr. Manley managed to get the parish up and running within a short period of time. He baptized the first child in the parish, Dominic Eugene Hamilton, on July 22, 1906.³⁷ As many of the parishioners were of German origin, confessions were heard before mass in both English and German in 1906, according to Fr. Manley's handwritten journal. In November 1906, the mass collection was \$20, according to the church website.

The Parish Report notes that in 1906 three lots were purchased for \$2,500, and that a fourth lot, the corner where the church stands, and some land in the rear were donated with a value of \$2,100. More ground was purchased in 1910 and 1912.³⁸ Many lots along Harford Road sold for a few hundred dollars

²⁸ 1898 *Bromley Atlas*, Plate 21. (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley).

²⁹ Holcomb, *City as Suburb*, p. xv.

³⁰ Ibid. p. xv.

³¹ Another undated, untitled newspaper clipping found in Fr. Manley's journal.

³² Holcomb, *City as Suburb*, p. 176.

³³ Ibid., p. 175.

³⁴ Hamilton Hall was located on the SE corner of what is now Hamilton Ave. and Harford Road where Wachovia Bank now stands. "little" Church website.

³⁵ "St. Dominic Has Jubilee" *Catholic Review*.

³⁶ "Mass at Hamilton," undated newspaper article found in Fr. Manley's journal.

³⁷ *Parish of St. Dominic: Golden Jubilee*.

³⁸ Parish Reports, St. Mary's University and Seminary Archives.

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at the turn of the 20th century, but their value had increased to \$20,000 - \$30,000 by 1930.³⁹ Over the same period of time, over a dozen churches were built on and off Hamilton Avenue.⁴⁰

To put the 1907 construction of the church in perspective to the development happening around it, "The old Hamilton telephone exchange was established in 1906, and served 69 subscribers".⁴¹ In 1907, Hamilton Avenue was paved with macadam, while the avenues were gravel.⁴² In May of 1908, the pastor gave notice to the parish that those driving to church were to plant their own hitching post on the church property in the grove⁴³ of trees adjacent to the church. A 1939 newspaper article mentions, "...at that time, St. Dominic's stood in what had been a picnic ground out on the unsettled edges of the city."⁴⁴

According to the parish reports, in 1909 the parish "erected school hall", and paid the teacher's salary. With 125 families in the parish, in the fall of 1909 eight grades opened in a small wooden school building on church property, taught by one teacher, a laywoman who also gave music lessons.⁴⁵ The effort was soon abandoned. In 1910, the Sisters of Charity were requested for St. Dominic's school, but because of the World War and other conditions, this request was not granted until nine years later.⁴⁶ (See **Lower Elementary School** below.)

When the lot adjacent to the church was purchased to erect the Rectory, the enlarged parcel became 150' wide by 250' deep. An undated newspaper from Father Manley's journal describes it as "...keep[ing] the grand old trees that are still standing on what was formerly known as Belvedere Park...located in front of the new schoolhouse and gives the children a fine playground..."⁴⁷

According to the *1915 Bromley Atlas of Baltimore County*, St. Dominic's church stood alone on its lot at the SW corner of Harford Road and Gibbons Avenue, along with a frame structure, perhaps used for the school, at the alley corner of the lot. Echodale Avenue had been named, but it did not extend all the way northwest, and it separated what is now the church lot from what later became Lauraville to the south. To the west of the "L"-shaped lot, three houses had been built on the 12 lots subdivided on south side of

³⁹ Ibid., p. 170.

⁴⁰ Ibid., p. 177. Harford Road had long been a public road, declared as such by the general assembly in 1791, Harford Road Turnpike was opened in 1819 from Baltimore to the Gunpowder Falls, and the removal of the tollgate at Harford Road and The Alameda was ordered by the City Courts in 1906. p. 52.

⁴¹ Jaques Kelly, p. 142.

⁴² Untitled article, *MORNING*, April 7, 1907. Found in Father Manley's journal.

⁴³ *St. Dominic's Parish: 80 Years in Hamilton, Looking to The Future!*

⁴⁴ "Crowds Honor Memory of Rev. John B. Manley," *Baltimore Evening Sun*. 12 July 1939.

⁴⁵ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish," Church website.

⁴⁶ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

⁴⁷ The date of the newspaper article coincides with "Gas pipes being laid along Gibbons Ave...and on which two handsome new cottages have recently been built."

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Gibbons, while seven houses had been erected along the north side. No churches had been erected along the east side of this section of Harford Road. The Evergreen Lawn Company owned tracts to the north.

Having started the process a few years earlier, the section of Harford Road adjacent to St. Dominic's was widened and improved in 1914.⁴⁸ Budding subdivisions like Altona Park, Hamilton Park, and Echodale Terrace were springing up nearby. "Hamilton evolved slowly from a patch-quilt of 19th century farms and estates...accelerat[ing in the 1920s], its growth fueled by faster automobiles, municipal road-paving projects and real estate speculators prescient enough to cash-in."⁴⁹ By that time, the surrounding northeast area of Baltimore was becoming suburbanized.⁵⁰

The community was part of Baltimore County until approximately 1918 when Baltimore City annexed land in the NE. In the ensuing years, frame dwellings were erected on the lots numbered 5302 and 5304 Harford Road (old #22 and #24),⁵¹ but these were removed later. One of the stucco and frame houses was relocated across Harford Road to land now owned by Ruck's Funeral Home.⁵² Neighborhood business was [and still is] centered at Hamilton Ave, just a block north on Harford Road.⁵³

Gibbons Avenue, the cross street at the north side of the campus, was named to honor Cardinal Gibbons, a man Father Manley admired; it was "the first street in the world named after the late Cardinal Gibbons."⁵⁴

By 1929, another church, St. John's of Hamilton (Methodist), and its rectory, and a couple dwellings existed across Harford Road, facing St. Dominic's.⁵⁵ The frame building on the alley (possibly the first school) mentioned above had been removed, and dwellings along Echodale Avenue had been constructed, including the frame dwelling at #2910 and its alley garage, a property now owned by St. Dominic's.⁵⁶ The residential neighborhood immediately behind appeared complete. The pre-1929 Hamilton Baptist Church, known as the Belvedere Baptist Church by 1945, occupied the southeastern

⁴⁸ Ibid., p. 127.

⁴⁹ Mark. B. Miller, *Baltimore Transitions: View of An American City in Flu*, (Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press. 1998), p. 192.

⁵⁰ Holcomb. *City as Suburb*. p. xv.

⁵¹ Before the end of 1920s. 1929 Sanborn Map of Baltimore City with 1945 overlay, Vol 11, page 1116.

⁵² These were frame dwellings, smaller than the Rectory. Michael Ruck, Sr. said his grandfather, the founder of the funeral home business, moved "a three-story, stucco and frame house across Harford Road in the middle of the night." The relocated dwelling was set between the corner and the American Foursquare now covered with white siding (where the second generation of Rucks were raised. It had been the home of a physician previously). That relocated building was expanded and used until c. 1950, and it was demolished c. 1963. Telephone interview on 12 October 2006.

⁵³ Kelly, p. 146.

⁵⁴ "New Convent is Dedicated at St. Dominic's," (n.p.) 7 July 1931.

⁵⁵ 1929 Sanborn Map with 1945 overlay, Vol. 11, p. 1116.

⁵⁶ 1929 Sanborn Map with 1945 overlay, Vol. 11, p. 1116.

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corner of what is now the St. Dominic's campus. The two-and-a-half story, brick church had a 50' spire.⁵⁷ The St. Dominic's Parish acquired this building at 5300 Harford Road and the Parish held activities, such as bingo and scout meetings, in the hall, later calling it the Echodale Building. It was demolished c. 1954-1956.⁵⁸

By the late 1920s, Western Electric cables were laid along the 5200 block of Harford Road,⁵⁹ just south of the church property. The streetcar was the neighborhood's main transportation line [in 1930] but automobiles were clearly on the ascendancy.⁶⁰ The No. 19 streetcar riding on tracks in the middle of Harford Road brought parishioners to St. Dominic's services and children to and from its school. The No. 19 streetcar served Harford Road until 1956.⁶¹ The No. 19 bus line still serves the community.

Father Manley

John Baptist Manley (1860-1939) was a native of County Mayo in Ireland, and he immigrated to the United States at the age of four.⁶² He conducted his seminary studies at St. Mary's and in 1886 was ordained by James Cardinal Gibbons (1834-1921), a man he admired deeply. He was not only a Catholic priest and pastor of several congregations, but also founder and builder of churches in five parishes in the Baltimore Archdiocese⁶³, a teacher, an author, and a world traveler. Despite heading impressive building campaigns, Fr. Manley managed to visit Japan, China, Australia, Central and South America, and Europe.⁶⁴

Of his many accomplishments, one of those of which he was most proud was the creation and construction of the St. Dominic's parish and campus. Fr. Manley had been the Chaplain for the Dominican Sisters at Irvington. He also founded and built St. Vincent's in Washington and St. Anthony's Shrine in Emmitsburg. As offshoots of his work at St. Dominic's Church, he also established St. Francis of Assisi at Harford Road and Chesterfield Avenue closer to the city, and St. Ursula's further north at Carney in the suburbs.⁶⁵ Fr. Manley worked hard to keep the parish debt low at all times, often deferring construction until a substantial portion of the funds were already secured. He initiated many

⁵⁷ 1929 *Sanborn Map*, Vol. 11, page 1116. An historic photo of this church can be seen in the front office of Fred's Tag & Title Co. at 6018 Harford Road.

⁵⁸ 1953 *Sanborn Map*, with overlays, Vol. 11, page 1116.

⁵⁹ Kelly, p. 142.

⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 146.

⁶¹ Holcomb, p. 125.

⁶² "Funeral Arranged for Father Manley" *Baltimore Sun*, 10 July 1939.

⁶³ St. Anthony's in Emmitsburg, St. Vincent's in Washington, and St. Dominic's, St. Ursula's and St. Francis of Assisi in Baltimore, the later two as missions of St. Dominic's. T.R. Buttner, "Parish Faces Challenges: St. Dominic's Pastor Seeks Solutions," *Catholic Review*, 30 August 1968.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

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fund-raising drives, including a 1911 "floor tax",⁶⁶ community-wide carnivals and monthly pew rental.⁶⁷ The Parish Records show annual debt and its rise and fall in comparison to the ambitious building program he undertook at St. Dominic's.

Father Manley died in the Rectory in July 1939, 32 years to the day after he conducted his first service at St. Dominic's.⁶⁸ Fr. Manley was credited as having erected, and paid for, \$325,000 worth of church and school buildings during the last fifteen years of his life,⁶⁹ and that figure does not include the initial construction costs of St. Dominic's Church, Rectory or Lower School.

The Church

Although not much is known about him, Mr. T. George Carroll⁷⁰ was reported to be the architect for the church.⁷¹ A contemporary newspaper account mentioned he was a descendant of the old historical family of the same name.⁷² An undated newspaper article found in Fr. Manley's journal indicated that at the bid opening, R. N. McCulloh offered the lowest bid for the construction of the church at \$18,265.⁷³ About 95 people attended the ground breaking for the church on December 30, 1906.⁷⁴

⁶⁶ 31 October 1911 pamphlet with a plea to parishioners for "\$400 to add new floor to put in the church," asking each family to donate \$5.

⁶⁷ e.g. 1908 financial record includes tabulation of "seat rent."

⁶⁸ "Crowds Honor Memory of Rev. John B. Manley," *Baltimore Sun*, 12 July 1939. Like architect T. George Carroll (see below), Rev. John Baptist Manley was buried in New Cathedral Cemetery in West Baltimore.

⁶⁹ "Funeral Arranged for Father Manley" *Baltimore Sun*, 10 July 1939.

⁷⁰ Nothing beyond the attribution of this building is known about T. George Carroll in the records of the Baltimore Architectural Foundation, St. Mary's Seminary Archives, and MD Historical Society, etc.

According to City Directories, in 1904, the architect's father Thomas G. Carroll of Thomas G. Carroll & Son, wholesale wine and liquors, lived at 1003 St. Paul Street. By 1905 T. George Carroll was listed as an architect at his family's residence on St. Paul Street. By 1906, he had established an office at 1209 Continental Building downtown, while Mrs. Thomas Carroll, assumedly his mother, was listed at the family home. The only other architect listed in the building was Owens and Cisco at 1605 Continental Building, making it appear as though T. George Carroll had his own office. The Carroll listings continued through 1910. By 1911, his sister Bessie Carroll resided in the family home on St. Paul Street, implying his mother had died. By 1912, T. George Carroll was no longer listed in the Baltimore City Directory. His architectural career in Baltimore appears brief.

According to Census records: In 1910, at 33, T. George Carroll, architect, lived with his 69 y.o. widowed father and 40 y.o. sister, Bessie L., in Baltimore City in the Ward 11 [no mention of his mother]. He is not listed in either the 1920 or 1930 Census Record in Baltimore.

Thomas G. Carroll [sic - the architect and son] is buried in New Cathedral Cemetery in Baltimore, along with other Carrolls including his sister and father (deduced from 1910 Census information). According to cemetery records, Thomas G. Carroll died at the age of 57 on 23 December 1932. At that time, he either lived or died in Atlantic City, NJ, or perhaps both.

⁷¹ "Cornerstone Laid," *Catholic Mirror*, May 1907.

⁷² *Thirteen Census of the United States: 1910—Population*: T. George Carroll, architect, was born c. 1876-1877 in Maryland, son of father T.G. Carrroll, born c. 1841 in Maryland (to a father born in Holland and a mother born in Pennsylvania - so the newspaper mention he was of The Carroll Family may have been stretched.).

⁷³ "...For Catholic Church" [partial title] and "Cornerstone Laid," *Catholic Mirror*, May 1907.

⁷⁴ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish," Church website.

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The exterior walls of the church were constructed in 1906-1907 of stone taken from Campbell's Quarry.⁷⁵ In a c. 1907 photo, one can see the completed stone walls. Cardinal Gibbons presided over the laying of the cornerstone with a copper box on May 5, 1907.⁷⁶ At the time of the laying of the corner stone, the church was described as being 60' x 100' with a seating capacity of 500.⁷⁷ "Besides three traditional altars, there are to be two side chapels."⁷⁸

Fr. Manley said the first Mass in the church on August 4, 1907 – the Feast of St. Dominic. At this time, the church was a shell with only the stonework finished.⁷⁹ Trolley tracks ran along Harford Road close to the church, and large trees surrounded the church.⁸⁰

By way of comparison with other churches of the day, the overall exterior styling of the stone church with its dominant corner tower can be seen in other Baltimore Catholic Churches, such as Baldwin and Pennington's St. Gregory the Great and St. Martin's Church after the c. 1907 steeple was erected.⁸¹ Neither unique nor high style, T. George Carroll's design for St. Dominic's is vernacular, rather than revolutionary, but in its setting, it anchors the Parish campus.

In 1907, masses were held twice on Sunday mornings.⁸² The interior of the church was unfinished, and was completed in stages over the years as the money became available through fundraising and contributions. At first, the eastern part of the church functioned as classroom and hall, while the western end served as the church. The Parish Reports indicate the plastering and steam heat were installed in 1908. The original bell, cast by McShane & Co. and still in use, weighs 2300 pounds, and was consecrated by Cardinal Gibbons on July 5, 1908.⁸³

Plastering began on the interior of the church in 1909.⁸⁴ The St. Joseph Altar was installed on November 27, 1909.⁸⁵ The main altar, constructed of Carrera marble imported from Italy, was consecrated on June 26, 1910, by Bishop Corrigan,⁸⁶ as was the statue of St. Dominic.

⁷⁵ "Cornerstone Laid", *Catholic Mirror*, May 1907. The Church website, "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish" indicates the exterior was built of local stone from either the Campbell or Ehman quarries.

⁷⁶ An untitled, undated newspaper article tucked in Fr. Manley's journal.

⁷⁷ "St. Dominic's Cornerstone Laid," undated newspaper article found in Fr. Manley's journal.

⁷⁸ Ibid. These altars were designed at 90 degree angles, facing into the nave, and later removed/relocated when church was expanded.

⁷⁹ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish," Church website, <http://www.stdominicarchbalt.org/>.

⁸⁰ See historic photo of church found at the back of *The Catholic Red Book of 1908*, Baltimore: Kohn & Pollack, Inc. 1908.

⁸¹ *Catholic Red Book*, p. 26.

⁸² "St. Dominic's Cornerstone Laid," undated newspaper article found in Fr. Manley's journal. Ibid.

⁸³ According to "St. Dominic: Msgr. Joseph A. Ells, Pastor," *Catholic Review*, 1 March 1963, the bells were dedicated to St. Boniface, one of the patron saints of Germany, the fatherland of the majority of the new parish's members.

⁸⁴ *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee*

⁸⁵ At a cost of \$750. "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic's," Church website.

⁸⁶ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

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An additional lot was purchased in 1910 and new pews were installed.⁸⁷ In 1911, Fr. Manley printed up a small "Floor Tax" plea to parishioners, asking each family to donate \$5 toward the \$400 to install a new floor in the church.⁸⁸ The congregation supplied \$800 for the organ, the other half the cost, contributed by Andrew Carnegie.⁸⁹ The Parish purchased two more lots during 1912.⁹⁰

The Stations of the Cross in the church, executed in Munich at a cost of about \$800,⁹¹ were dedicated in November 1913. In September 1914, a contract was let for electric lights and the decoration of the church.⁹² The marble altar was added in 1917.⁹³ The stained glass windows in the older part of the church also came from Munich.⁹⁴ According to the Parish Report, the "Art Windows" were purchased [and assumedly installed] in 1922.⁹⁵ All the while, the congregation grew.

To meet the need for additional seating, in 1925, Baltimore architect Francis E. Tormey's plans were approved, and the church was widened with the addition of two side wings, incorporating the side altars in bays that reproduced the originals, but turned them to face the congregation.⁹⁶ The enlargement cost of about \$50,000.⁹⁷ All the walls of the church were plastered as of 1929.⁹⁸ The final improvements, such as installing wainscoting, floor tiles, and frescoes on the ceilings and in the sanctuary were added in 1934.⁹⁹

The reliquary holding the relic of St. Dominic, which Fr. Manley brought from Spain, was made from precious metals and jewels donated by members of the congregation.¹⁰⁰ Bishop Corrigan consecrated the Sacred Heart altar, made of Greek and Italian marble, and built by Gault & Son.¹⁰¹

⁸⁷ Parish Report.

⁸⁸ A small pamphlet dated 31 October 1911, found in Father Manley's journal in the Parish Office.

⁸⁹ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish," Church website.

⁹² *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee and 80 Years in Hamilton*.

⁹³ Parish Report.

⁹⁴ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic's," Church website.

⁹⁵ Parish Report, 1 January 1923.

⁹⁶ The Baltimore Architecture Foundation has a masonry contractor's brochure from the early 20th century listing Francis E. Tormey as the architect of St. Dominic's. The Maryland Historical Society Museum collection of Tormey drawings includes five pages, dated April 1925, showing the expansion of the church.

⁹⁷ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

⁹⁸ 1929 Sanborn Map, Vol. 11, page 1116.

⁹⁹ *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee and 80 Years in Hamilton*.

¹⁰⁰ "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic's," St. Dominic's website.

¹⁰¹ Ibid. The same, well-known, Baltimore company made Father Manley's grave marker, according to the Maryland Historical Society's website catalogue of Hughes Studio photographs.

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"The final improvements of the church under Fr. Manley's leadership were the installation of wooden wainscoting on the walls, frescoes in the sanctuary and on the ceiling, and the tiling of the floor during the fall of 1934."¹⁰²

The next enlargement of the church was under the leadership of Monsignor Ells who came to St. Dominic's in 1954.¹⁰³ The first dwelling along Gibbons Avenue behind the church, #2915 (old #3), was removed between 1953 and 1955,¹⁰⁴ in preparation for the westward expansion of the church. Designed by John Eyring, architect, and constructed by E. Eyring and Sons, contractors,¹⁰⁵ the church underwent substantial alteration in 1956¹⁰⁶-57, including underpinning the old buildings without interrupting services,¹⁰⁷ with a formal dedication ceremony in December 1959. At that time, the church was reported to have one of the largest congregations in the city with 13-14,000 members, and "is considered one of the city's most beautiful places of worship".¹⁰⁸ The size of the church was more than doubled to seat 1,100 in the main church and another 400 in a separate chapel on the lower floor of the addition, yet masses were still performed 12 times on Sundays.¹⁰⁹ By the end of the 1950s, the church and campus had achieved their present form and configuration. A new organ was installed in the church and dedicated in 1969.¹¹⁰

The Rectory

In 1915, the parish selected the location of the Rectory, and broke ground in April 1916.¹¹¹ The Rectory was completed four months later in August.¹¹² Until that time, Father Manley had been living in the two rooms above the sacristy.¹¹³

A rear addition to the Rectory was constructed in 1937¹¹⁴ to provide additional space for Fr. Manley's assistant. When the Church was expanded in the 1950s, a connection was made at the rear of the Rectory with yet another addition, so the priests could walk directly into the Church protected from weather.

¹⁰² *80 Years in Hamilton.*

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁴ 1953 *Sanborn Map*, with overlays, Vol. 11, page 1116.

¹⁰⁵ "New St. Dominic's Church to be Dedicated Sunday," *Catholic Review*, 11 December 1959, p. 18, col. 4.

¹⁰⁶ 1953 *Sanborn Map*, with overlays, *ibid.*

¹⁰⁷ "New St. Dominic's," *Catholic Review*, *ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ "Impressive Ceremonies: St. Dominic's Church Dedicated Sunday," *Baltimore News Post*

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹¹ *80 Years in Hamilton.*

¹¹² "Little Known Facts about St. Dominic Parish," Church website.

¹¹³ *80 Years in Hamilton.*

¹¹⁴ Parish Report, 1 January 1938.

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The Stone Garage

The matching stone, one-car garage was erected in 1915 at the angled corner of the alley behind the Rectory.¹¹⁵

The Lower Elementary School

Fr. Manley reported "erected school hall" in the Parish Report and by 1909 was operating a parochial school with one teacher for eight grades in a wooden school building.¹¹⁶ The exact location of this building has not been established, although it may have been the frame building at the alley side of the property. Parish Reports indicate no teachers' salaries paid in the late 1910s, even though the Parishioners wanted to open a new school.

Although \$1,200 remained for the mortgage loan on the Rectory in 1918, attention once again turned to the construction of the Lower School. After a year of discussion and planning, in May 1919, work on the stone school building began.¹¹⁷ By the end of that year, a \$10,000 school fund had been built up in preparation for the 1919-1921 construction of the Lower School building at a cost of \$35,000. Since the new stone structure still was under construction, school opened in September 1919 in the "old wooden building" for grades one through five with two Daughters of Charity teaching 100 children.¹¹⁸ The corner stone at the northeast corner of The Lower Elementary School was laid in October 1919,¹¹⁹ but the war effort may have delayed the completion of the construction. By the June 1920, the children were able to perform in the school assembly hall,¹²⁰ but Father Manley noted in the Parish Report at the end of 1923 the "need to complete the interior of the third floor". The school assembly hall, also called the auditorium, was the location of some of the traditional school gatherings, including graduations, from 1920-2005.

A Parish Report indicated the school was "enlarged" in 1927, at a cost of \$48,000, and mentions that an additional \$12,000 was spent on adjoining property to do so.¹²¹ The southern third of the Lower School building was added at that time.

The Convent

Leading up to the construction of the Convent, the Sisters of Charity who taught in the St. Dominic's parochial school needed housing. A convent opened in 1919¹²² or 1920, but it was not yet furnished.¹²³

¹¹⁵ Parish Reports. Also see 1929 Sanborn Map, Vol. 11, page 1116.

¹¹⁶ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁹ "St. Dominic's Parochial School Cornerstone Laid" *Baltimore Sun*, 6 October 1919.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ 1 January 1928 Parish Report. A separate 1927 financial statement states "school extension \$43,780" and "purchase adjoining property \$12,000."

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Records indicate that by 1922, Father Manley had insured the "sister shack", but by way of notifying the Archdiocese of his wish list, he added "a convent estimated to cost \$25,000."¹²⁴ In 1923, a house was purchased for the Sisters at a cost of \$10,000.¹²⁵ Having paid off all mortgage debt, Father Manley again proposed building a Convent in 1929.¹²⁶ In 1930, the Parish purchased a house and two lots for \$16,500, and sold the house for \$8,100.¹²⁷ This transaction cleared the land needed along Harford Road for the construction of the stone Convent built in 1931.

The Convent was dedicated on July 26, 1931 at a cost of \$80,000, including furnishings.¹²⁸ When the 14 room Convent was dedicated, Father Manley saw to it that the

"Vari-colored electric lights...used at the annual carnival...were flashed for the dedication...The travelers not only saw, they heard: Father Manley had amplifiers installed and the words of the dedication ceremonies...were broadcast for blocks."¹²⁹

Father Manley, forward thinking and somewhat revolutionary, arranged for an excellent female orator to speak.

"That [was] something new and novel, and yet strictly canonical. The speech was delivered outside the church."¹³⁰ A contemporary newspaper article described the new Convent as "...decidedly one of the best any Catholic parish in this country has erected."¹³¹

The Sisters lived in the Convent until close to the end of the 20th century when their number dwindled to less than a handful teaching at the school. Concurrently, as more lay teachers were hired, the function of the building shifted to Parish Office space.

The Upper Elementary School

Father Manley noted plans for a school addition in the Parish Report for 1934, and in 1935, the Upper Elementary School was constructed at a cost of approximately \$53,000.¹³² While the floor plans show classrooms, one on the first floor was used a library and another as a chapel to handle the overflow crowds.¹³³

¹²² An unpublished, typed "History of St. Dominic's Parish." c. 1956.

¹²³ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

¹²⁴ Parish Report, 1 January 1923.

¹²⁵ Parish Report, 1 January 1924.

¹²⁶ Parish Report, 1 January 1930.

¹²⁷ Parish Report, 1 January 1931.

¹²⁸ Parish Report, 1 January 1932.

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ Ibid.

¹³¹ "New Convent is Dedicated at St. Dominic's," n.p. 7 July 1931.

¹³² Parish Reports.

¹³³ *Parish of St. Dominic: Golden Jubilee*, as well as oral history comments.

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A third floor was added to the school and the mid 1950s church expansion covered over the 1936 date stone at the north corner of the school's east façade.¹³⁴

In 1930, St. Dominic's Catholic Church had the largest membership of any denomination on Harford Road.¹³⁵ In addition to shepherding the St. Dominic's congregation of 2600 members, Fr. Manley spearheaded the creation of two mission churches: the 500 member active congregation of the St. Francis of Assisi mission parish at Herring Run Park (ground purchased 1927) and the newly formed mission parish of St. Ursula (ground purchased in 1930).¹³⁶ As described in 1930, "The growth of St. Dominic's has more than kept pace with the rapid progress of Harford Road."¹³⁷

May Day was a well-known festival for St. Dominic's Parish.

"A May procession will take place... The beautiful grove of trees adjoining the church, formerly known as Belvedere Park, with its clusters of magnificent trees offers a grand scene for this most beautiful of services of the Catholic Church. The girls will be costumed in white and the boys wearing black."¹³⁸

This festival continued for many years, and Jacques Kelly used a 1939 photograph of the event in his book *The Pratt Library Album: Baltimore Neighborhoods in Focus*, p 146. His caption reads, "The annual May procession at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in Hamilton was a major neighborhood event... when the procession advanced along Harford Road."

Fr. Manley died in 1939, after the Upper Elementary School was completed. Although repairs and improvements continued to be made to the campus, the notable building programs seemed to subside for 25 years, as did notations of specific alterations and improvements in the Parish Reports.

Reverend John J. Donlan succeeded Fr. Manley. Rev. Donlan, known for his great charity to the poor, was the spiritual leader of St. Dominic's for 13 years until his death in 1953.¹³⁹ Under his leadership, ten masses were celebrated each Sunday and four priests lived in the Rectory. Under Rev. Donlan, the Parish purchased the adjacent property at 2910 Echodale Avenue, the house behind the Convent, for use by the priests, and experimentally as an Ecumenical Coffee House,¹⁴⁰ The property still remains under Parish ownership.

¹³⁴ See photo from *Parish of St. Dominic: Golden Jubilee*. n.p., showing front façade of two-story school building.

¹³⁵ "St. Dominic's Catholic Church," *Towson Union News*. 30 May 1930.

¹³⁶ Parish Reports.

¹³⁷ "St. Dominic's Catholic Church," *Towson Union News*.

¹³⁸ "May Day at Hamilton: Children of St. Dominic's Will Have Procession," undated newspaper article in Fr. Manley's journal.

¹³⁹ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

¹⁴⁰ Buttner, "Parish Faces Challenges."

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Then with the succeeding leadership of Monsignor Joseph A. Ells, additional lots were acquired at 5403 Harford Road in 1953, 5305 Harford Road (vacant lot) in 1958 and 5403 Harford Road (vacant lot) in 1962 to provide room for overflow parking. The Belvedere Baptist Church property at the SE corner of the campus was purchased in 1957. Later called Echodale Hall, the building housed hall activities, such as Girl Scouts meetings. Just behind the Church, 2915 Gibbons Avenue was purchased, and the house torn down,¹⁴¹ in preparation for the westward expansion of the Church. Interestingly, in the Parish Reports, there is no mention of the major construction project undertaken in the mid-1950s to expand the Church. There is mention of a \$100,000 debt to the Archdiocese in 1960, but the Parish repaid the debt by 1961, and operated in the black through the 1960s.

Twelve masses were held on Sundays.¹⁴² The Parish incorporated in 1963, and Monsignor Ells left St. Dominic's in 1968 because of his ill health. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Father Gerard Huesman launched a plan to renovate the buildings, upgrading the kitchen in the Convent, demolishing the old church hall building on the corner of Echodale and Harford Road, blacktopping the two playgrounds, cleaning and applying silicone to the church and the Rectory, and installing a new organ and electronic bell ringer.¹⁴³

The growth patterns of cities tends to go in cycles with the populations of the growth rings expanding and shrinking. As parishes on the periphery of Baltimore City mushroomed, those of the inner city shrank;¹⁴⁴ St. Dominic's gain in membership was partially at the expense of the inner city congregations. In the 1950s, Catholicism was growing strongest in the northeastern reaches of the city.

¹⁴⁵ Subsequently, as the outer suburban rings developed, the area around St. Dominic's Church suffered a loss of population. The population of the congregation and the school dwindled, as young people left in the 1960s. In the early 1980s, the trend appeared to temporarily reverse as approximately 650 children were enrolled in the parish school, taught by ten Daughters of Charity.¹⁴⁶ St. Dominic's congregation also followed the settlement patterns of the suburban immigration and emigration of several ethnic groups, i.e., the first influx of German settlers to the area was followed later by Italian and Irish residents.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴¹ The Parish Report indicates this took place in 1958, but that date seems to conflict with the construction of the addition. The notation must have been an after thought.

¹⁴² In 1968, eleven masses were said on Sundays, seven in the church and four in the school chapel. Buttner, "Parish Faces Challenges."

¹⁴³ *80 Years in Hamilton*.

¹⁴⁴ Spalding, *The Premier See*, p. 391.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.* p. 393.

¹⁴⁶ An untitled newspaper article tucked posthumously into Father Manley's journal, mentioning it had been 75 years since the founding of the church, dating the article to approximately 1981.

¹⁴⁷ Jacques Kelly. *The Pratt Library Album: Baltimore Neighborhoods in Focus*, (Baltimore: Enoch Pratt Free Library, 1986), p. 146. In referring to 1939, his caption indicates, "The parish was composed largely of Irish and Italian families..."

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Following suburbanization trends, St. Dominic's lost parishioners and their school children to the outlying parishes at the end of the 20th century. The Parish congregation peaked in 1950 with 7782 members, declined slightly during the early 1950s, and then increased again, when the Church expansion was undertaken.¹⁴⁸ Twelve masses were necessary to accommodate the parishioners during the peak of the church's popularity. Membership declined slowly through the late 1960s.¹⁴⁹

The Parochial School continued to thrive, expanding its student body consistently from its creation in 1909 into the 1960s, peaking at over 1,200 students per year.¹⁵⁰ There were three classes in each grade, up through eighth grade, and some of the classes had 55-60 students with a single teacher. The Lower and Upper Elementary Schools continued to operate through spring of 2005, despite declining enrollment. The St. Dominic's parochial school finally closed its doors in June of 2005, merging with the Shrine of Little Flower and St. Anthony's, and sending its hundreds of students to attend Mother Mary Lange School at St. Anthony's. The two campus school buildings are now vacant, but plans are underway to convert them into rental apartments for seniors and disabled residents.

St. Dominic's school was significant in the history of education in the community, as demonstrated by the large number of children educated there for much of the 20th century. St. Dominic Church and School were described as "the lifeblood of the Hamilton community".¹⁵¹ In placing the role of the church in historical perspective, other members of the congregation consider St. Dominic's a "keystone of the community".¹⁵² "Obviously St. Dominic's Church and School are focal points in Hamilton."¹⁵³

The St. Dominic's campus was not only a religious sanctuary and school, but also an active social and community center. During the Parish's first half century, 6,284 were baptized, approximately 5,900 children received their First Holy Communion, 4,048 children were confirmed, and 2,090 couples were married. These large numbers confirm the importance of this Parish and its campus to the Catholics within the Hamilton community.¹⁵⁴ Annual summer carnivals held in the school yard, bingo, Boy and Girl Scouts, and huge crowds gathered along Harford Road to watch the annual May processions, etc., all contributed to the inter-relationship between the parish and the local community. The parish had a

¹⁴⁸ Parish Reports.

¹⁴⁹ Parish Reports.

¹⁵⁰ See Addendum: St. Dominic's Parochial School Attendance Record.

¹⁵¹ by Bert Peters, Lifelong parishioner, St. Dominic Church, and member of St. Dominic School, Class of 1956, from "Looking Back... Parishioners remember when...I remember..." Church website.

¹⁵² Al Bittner, Interview.

¹⁵³ This 1995 quote by Lance W. Berkowitz, a Jewish pharmacist and local businessman, was offered in explanation for why he was raising funds for the operation of a Catholic church and school. Sommerville, Frank P.L. "An Angel for St. Dominic's," *Baltimore Sun*, 27 October 1995.

¹⁵⁴ *Parish of St. Dominic Golden Jubilee.*

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drum corps and a marching band that obtained the state championship title and operated from approximately the 1930s until World War II.¹⁵⁵ In the 1980s, St. Dominic's

"...could still count some fifty organizations. Among the older ones were the Holy Name Society,¹⁵⁶ Altar Society, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Children of Mary, and the Boy and Girl Scout Troops, along with Cub Scouts and Brownies; among the new were the Breath of God prayer group, Senior Citizens, Singles Again, Suicides Anonymous, and ministries to shut-ins and the ill."¹⁵⁷

Fr. Manley and the Parish even influenced community planning, just one block from the heart of the neighborhood, in the naming of Gibbons Avenue. The significance of the relationship between the parish and the local community has continued into the 21st century. For example, in 2001, the City of Baltimore gave St. Dominic's Church a Mayor's Citation "...for your contribution to the civic welfare of our municipality".¹⁵⁸

Historically, Fr. Manley's remarkable building campaign is impressive: He started with a group of 200 people and less than \$15, and within 33 years had erected six stone buildings, spanning an era that included a world war and a national depression. These structures embody the distinctive characteristics of the early 20th century in burgeoning NE Baltimore:

- the need for houses of worship and gathering places for the expanding population;
- buildings constructed economically;
- buildings that served more than one purpose until the growth and finances could support the intended function alone period;
- substantial locally-quarried stone construction.

St. Dominic's campus represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose individual components might lack sufficient significance for NR listing.

This religious property derives significance from its architectural distinction and local historic importance. The campus represents a significant part of the history, architecture, and culture of the Hamilton area. Its architecture has notable characteristics that make it a good example of an ambitious building plan, sustained by the community values the institution endorsed and encouraged. While many other churches were constructed in the burgeoning suburbs of Baltimore, it is the cohesive collection of Church, Rectory, School, and Convent, all located within a tightly defined site, and all constructed of substantial materials with an eye for details that sets St. Dominic's campus apart from its peers. Combined with the Rectory, substantial school buildings, and the handsome design for the Convent, the Church lends its name to a cohesive campus, creating an architecturally concise historic district.

¹⁵⁵ Al Bittner, Interview, and confirmed with an historic photo taken in front of the Convent.

¹⁵⁶ The Holy Name Society was founded on May 29, 1910, according to the church website.

¹⁵⁷ Spalding, *The Premier See*, p. 477.

¹⁵⁸ Framed certificate posted in the meeting room in the Convent/Parish Office.

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The campus remains intact, without significant loss of architectural integrity. This collection of six, vernacular, granite buildings in a modest variety of architectural styles creates a cohesive campus entity, worthy of National Register listing under Criterion C for their architectural significance and substantial construction. In taking into account Criterion Consideration A, this religious property is eligible as it derives its primary significance from architectural importance, as well as its historical significance. The campus clearly represents the 20th century evolutionary growth not only of St. Dominic's Parish, but also of the Catholic community within NE Baltimore and the local community within the Hamilton area. Fr. John B. Manley's contribution as captain of the site development for a third of a century is worthy of recognition as well.

The prominent, clearly defined site, located near the center of Hamilton, and the campus architecture, varied in detailed stylistic references, yet unified by the use of local quarry stone, provide a noteworthy physical manifestation of the church and its various religious, social and educational functions. Therefore, architecturally St. Dominic's period of significance is the initial construction of the church in 1907 through the dedication of its major expansion in 1959, while its historic significance arguably spans into the recent past, the period from its founding in 1906 through its centennial celebration in 2006. The property possesses the physical features necessary to convey the aspect of history with which it is associated, making it worthy of National Register listing primarily under Criterion C, with supporting evidence for Criterion A and also Criterion B (Father Manley).

Peter, Should these go here?

Significant Dates (continued)

1919-1921
1925
1931
1935
1939
1956-1959

Architect/Builder (continued)

McCulloh, R.N.
Eyring, John
Eyring, E., and Sons
Unknown

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Addendum:

St. Dominic's Parochial School Attendance Record

| Year | Number of students reported in St. Dominic's Parish Reports |
|------|---|
| 1920 | 110 |
| 1921 | 170 |
| 1922 | 250 |
| 1923 | 300 |
| 1924 | 330 |
| 1925 | 380 |
| 1926 | 440 |
| 1927 | 500 |
| 1928 | 520 |
| 1929 | 550 |
| 1930 | 675 |
| 1931 | 625 |
| 1932 | 650 |
| 1933 | 690 |
| 1934 | 705 |
| 1935 | 730 |
| 1936 | 730 - 16 Sisters (teachers) earning \$360/yr |
| 1937 | 725 - 18 teachers |
| 1938 | 725 |
| 1939 | 692 |
| 1940 | 697 - 20 teachers |
| 1941 | 715 |
| 1942 | 718 |
| 1943 | 714 |
| 1944 | 731 |
| 1945 | 734 - 17 teachers |
| 1946 | 747 |
| 1947 | 775 |
| 1948 | 847 - 18 teachers |
| 1949 | 871 |
| 1950 | 870 |
| 1951 | 886 |
| 1952 | 912 |
| 1953 | 994 |
| 1954 | 1024 |
| 1955 | 1052 - 20 teachers |
| 1956 | 1060 |
| 1957 | 1091 |
| 1958 | 1188 - 23 teachers |
| 1959 | 1231 |
| 1960 | 1267 - 25 teachers |
| 1961 | 1236 |
| 1962 | 1246 |
| 1963 | 1223 |
| 1964 | 1192 |
| 1965 | 1187 - 24 teachers |
| 1966 | 1168 - 26 teachers |
| 1967 | 1160 - 25 teachers |
| 1968 | 1134 - 24 teachers |
| 1969 | 1134 |
| 1970 | 1134 |

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DRAFT

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 2

13-5133
St. Dominic's Catholic Church

Name of Property

Baltimore City, Maryland

County and State

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DRAFT

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 3

13-5133
St. Dominic's Catholic Church

Name of Property

Baltimore City, Maryland

County and State

"St. Dominic's Catholic Church," *Baltimore Evening Sun*. 18 July 1939.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DRAFT

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

B-5133

St. Dominic's Catholic Church

Name of Property

Baltimore City MD

County and State

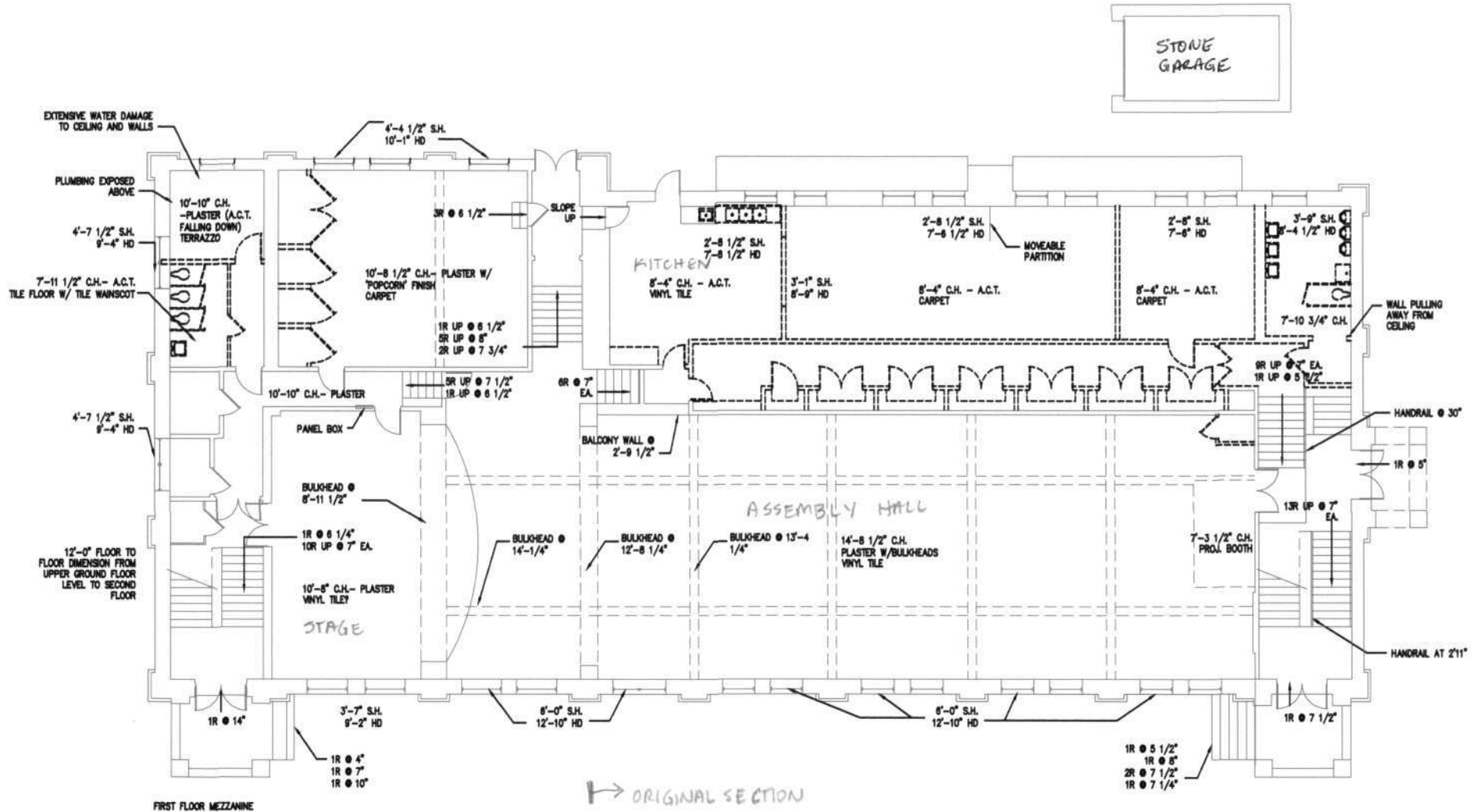
Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

+ The 5300 block of Harford Road along the NW side, spanning between Echodale Avenue to the south and Gibbons Avenue to the north. The "L"-shaped campus of is bounded by a 20' angled alley on the west side.

Boundary Justification:

+ The six contributing structures of St. Dominic Catholic Church campus, all of similar, locally quarried stone, clearly depict a unified architectural scheme.



St. Dominic's School
Lower School Building

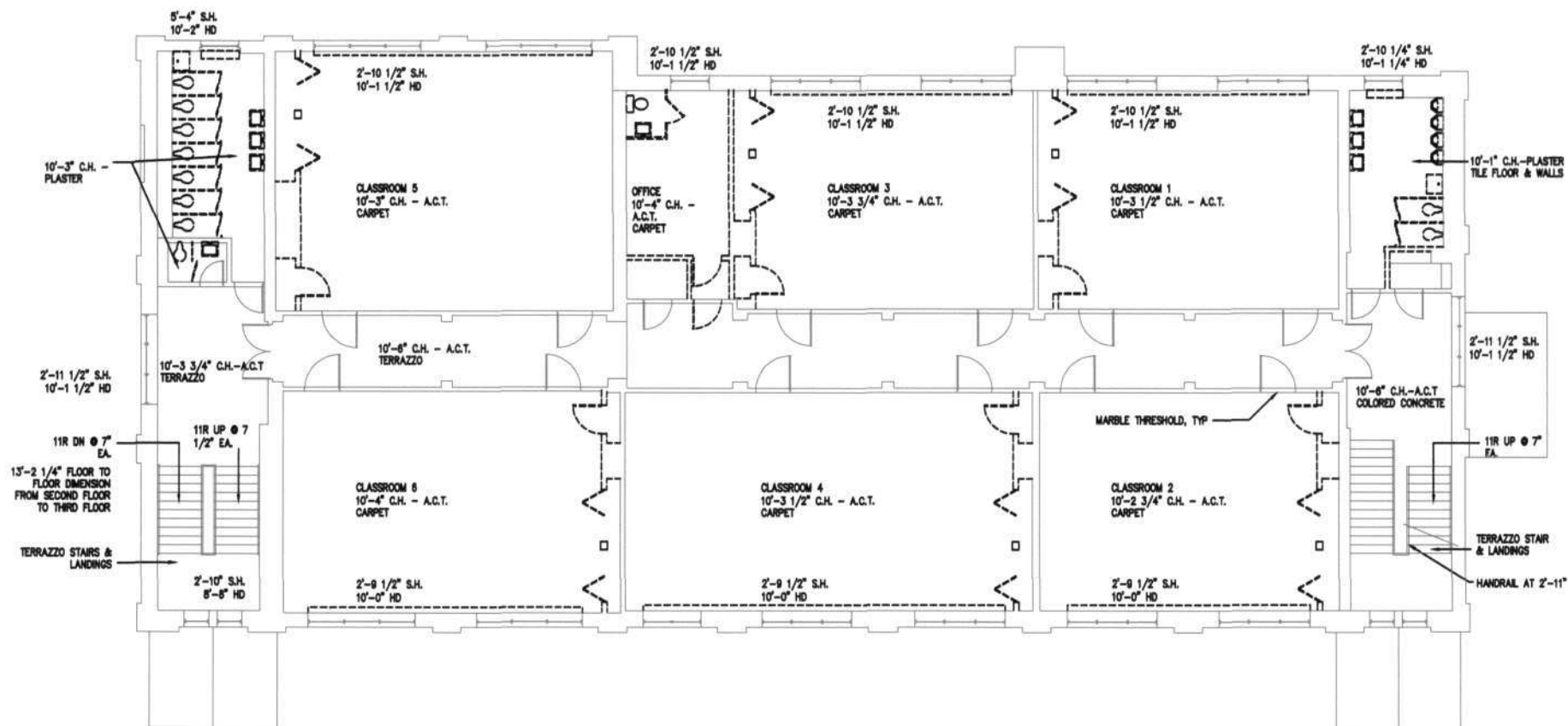
APPROX 140' X 60', porches 10' X 10'

3/32" = 1'-0"

Ground Floor/Mezz. Plan
Exist. Cond./Demo Notes 07.25.06

h | c | m | 750 E. Pratt Street, Suite 1100 | Baltimore, MD 21202 | 410.837.7311
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B-5133



ADDITION ←

St. Dominic's School
Lower School Building

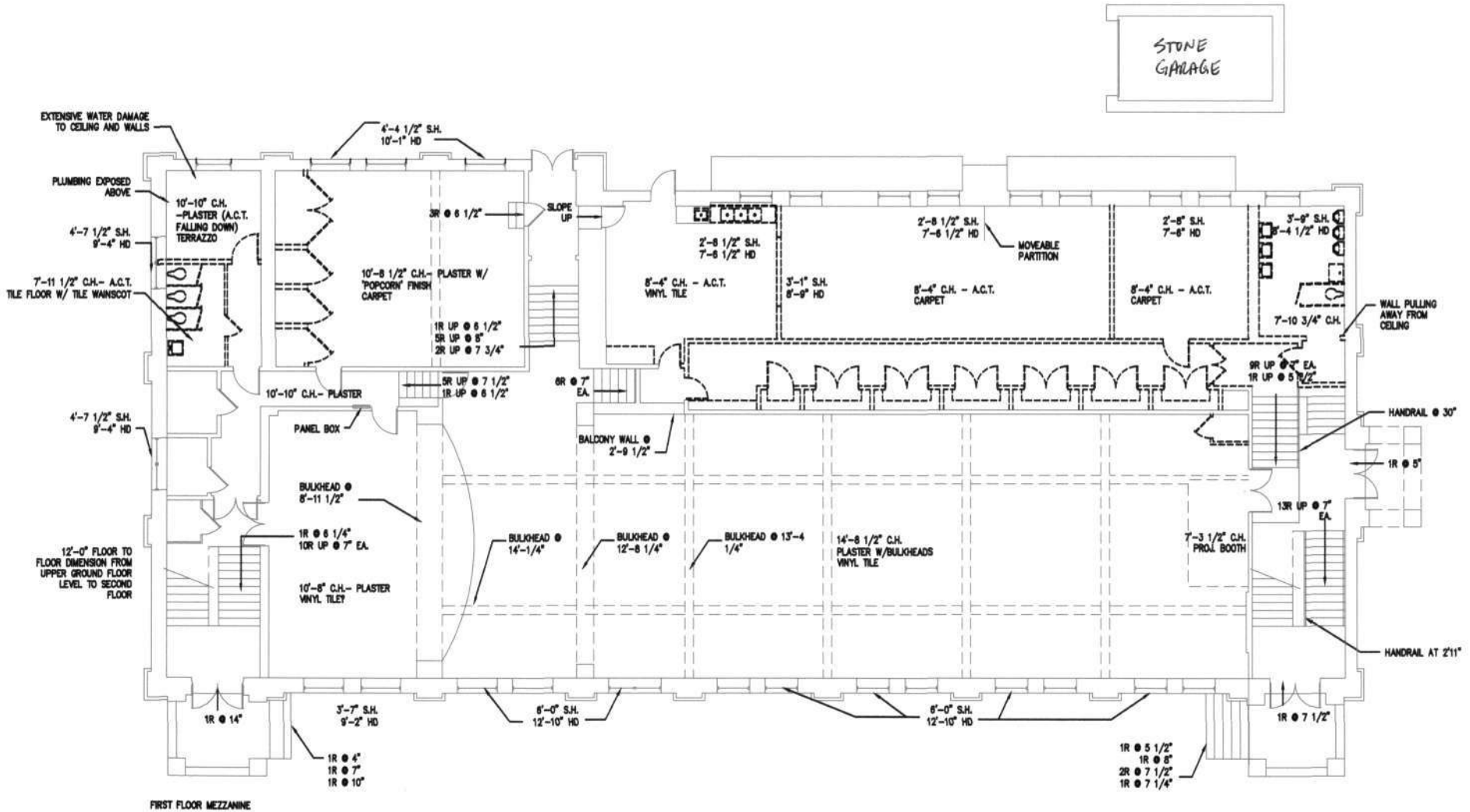
3/32" = 1'-0"

Second Floor Plan
Exist. Cond./Demo Notes

07.25.06

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St. Dominic's School
Lower School Building

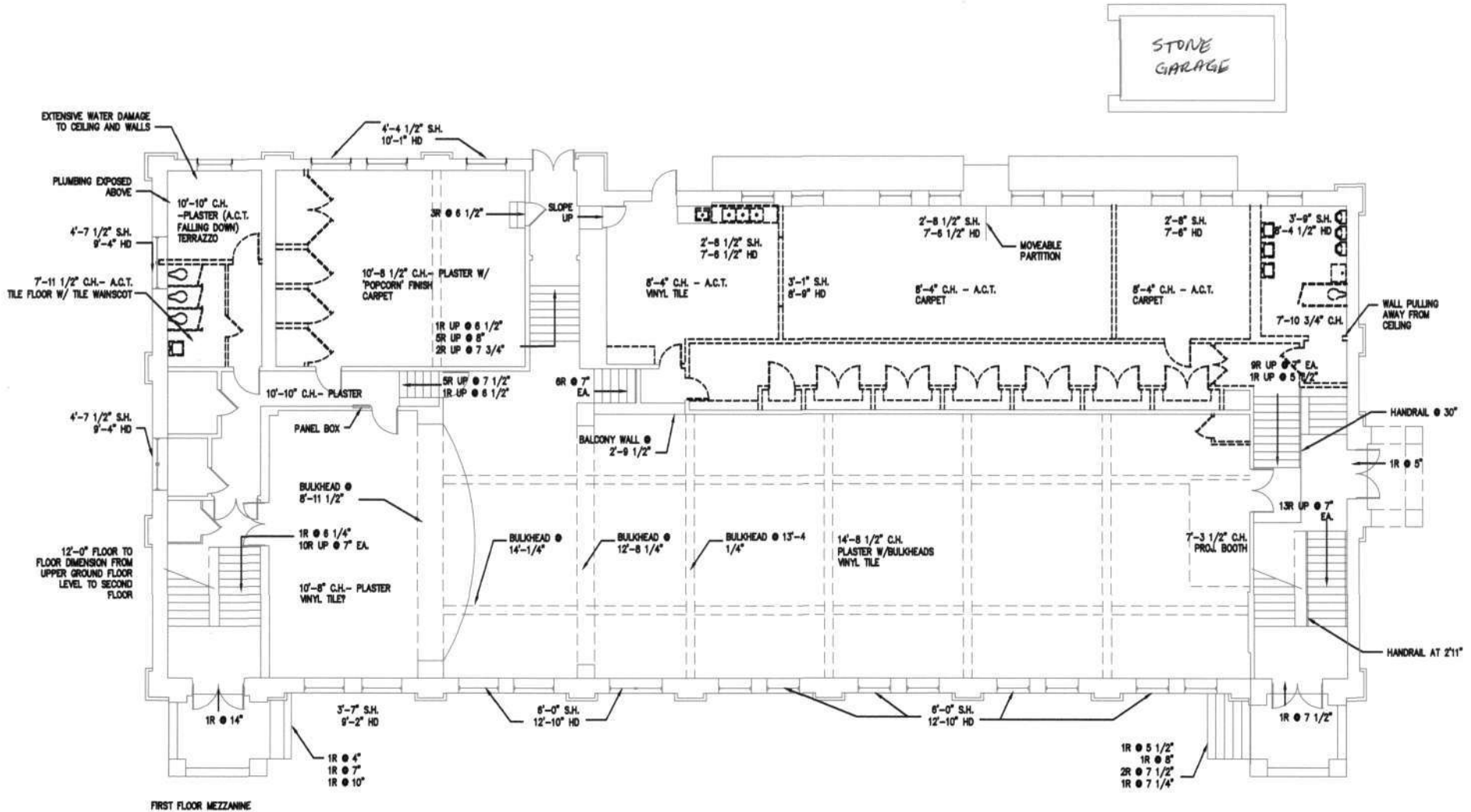
APPROX 140'x60', porches 10'x10'

3/32" = 1'-0"

Ground Floor/Mezz. Plan
Exist. Cond./Demo Notes 07.25.06

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St. Dominic's School
Lower School Building

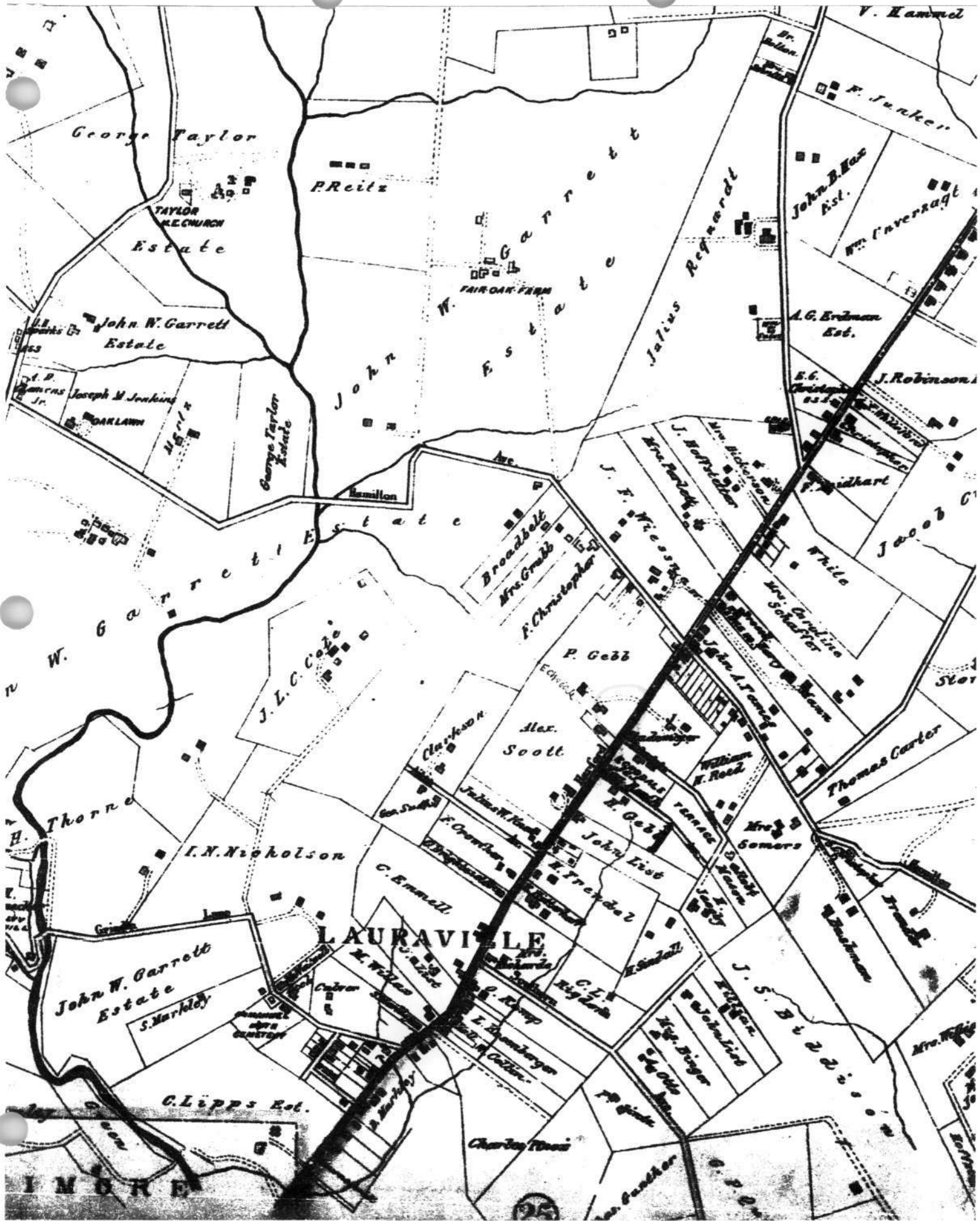
APPROX 140'x60', porches 10'x10'

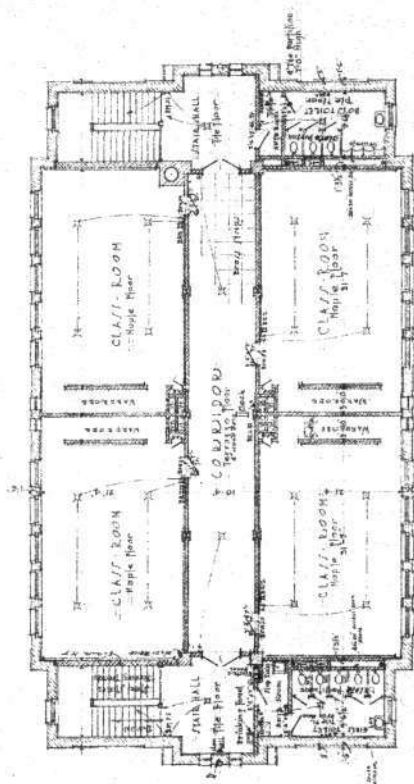
3/32" = 1'-0"

Ground Floor/Mezz. Plan
Exist. Cond./Demo Notes 07.25.06

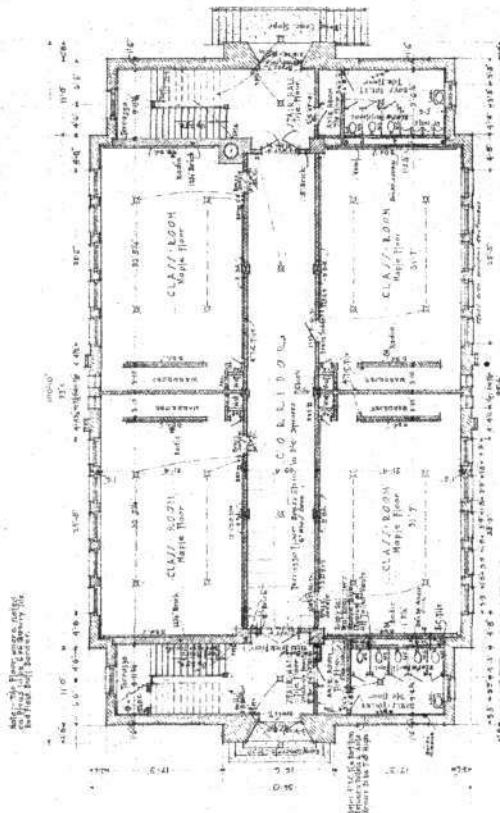
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B-5133

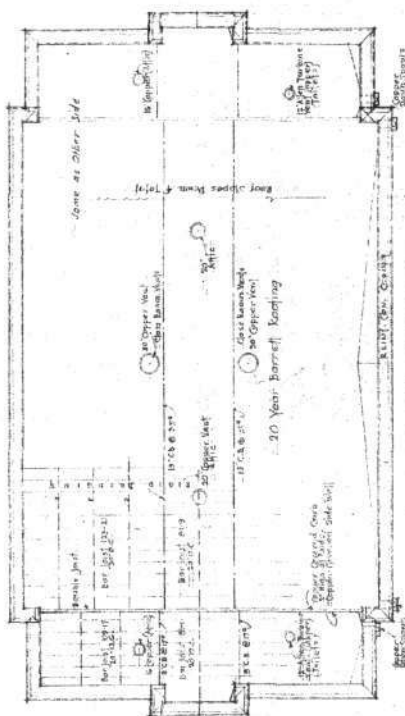




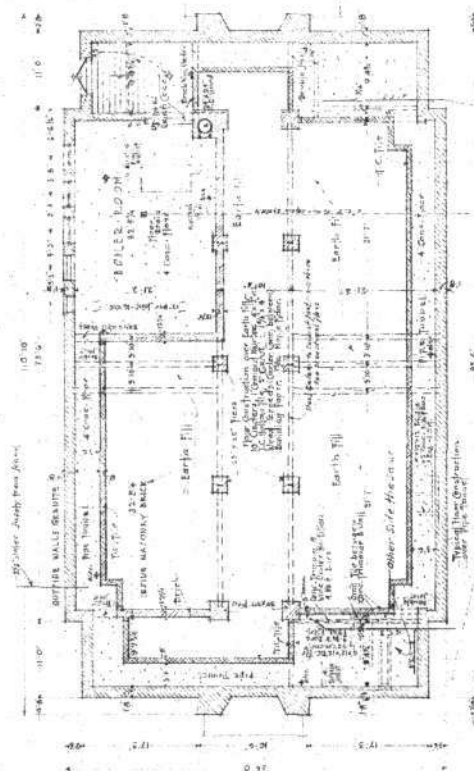
SECOND-FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



FIRST-FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

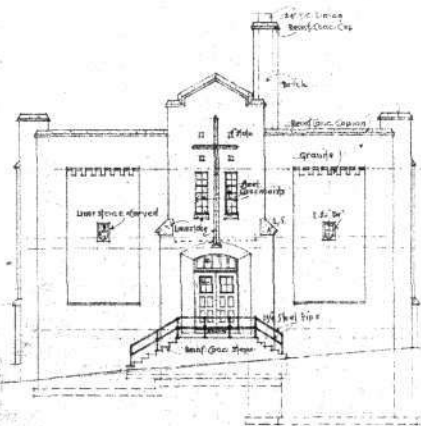


ROOF PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

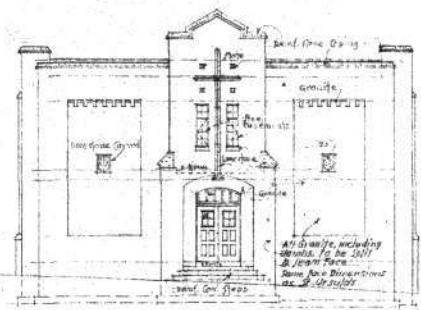


BASEMENT PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

ADDITION
ST. DOMINIC'S SCHOOL
BALTIMORE, MD.
BUTLER HANLEY BASTIE & CO.

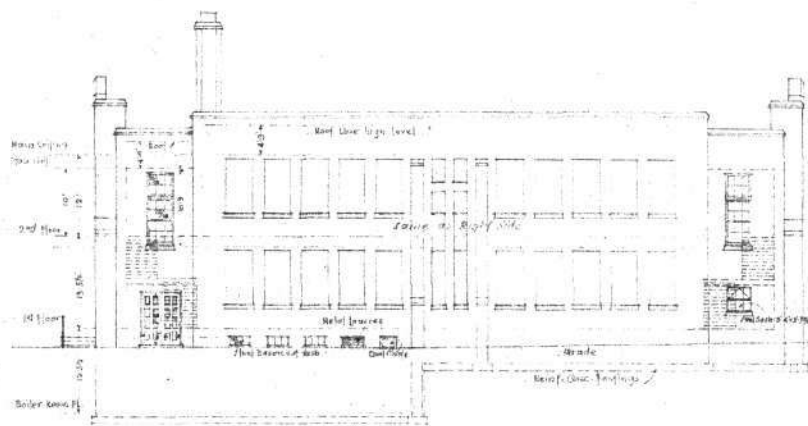


NEAR-ELEVATION

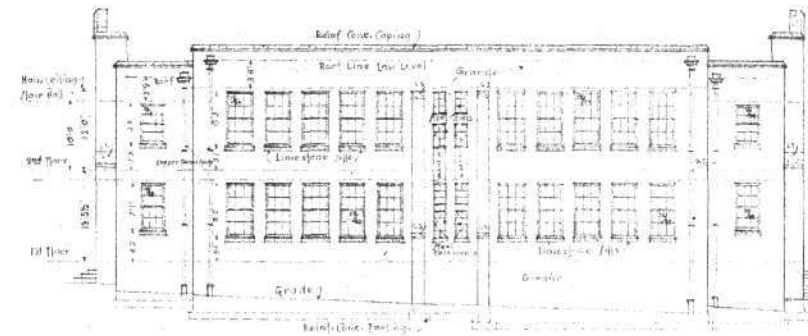


• FRONT ELEVATION •
FACING MALTBY DRIVE.

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"



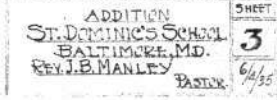
•LEFT SIDE ELEVATION•

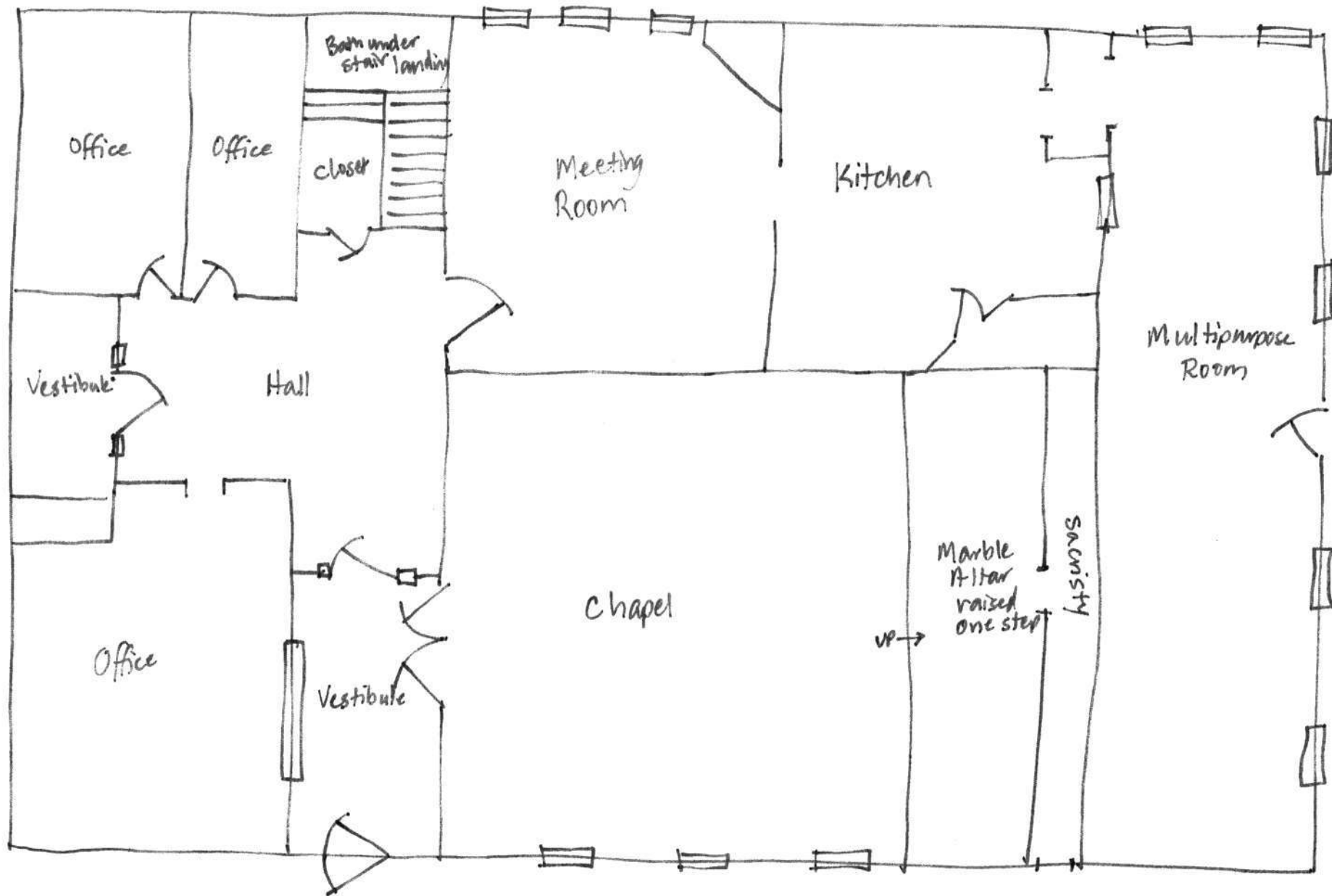


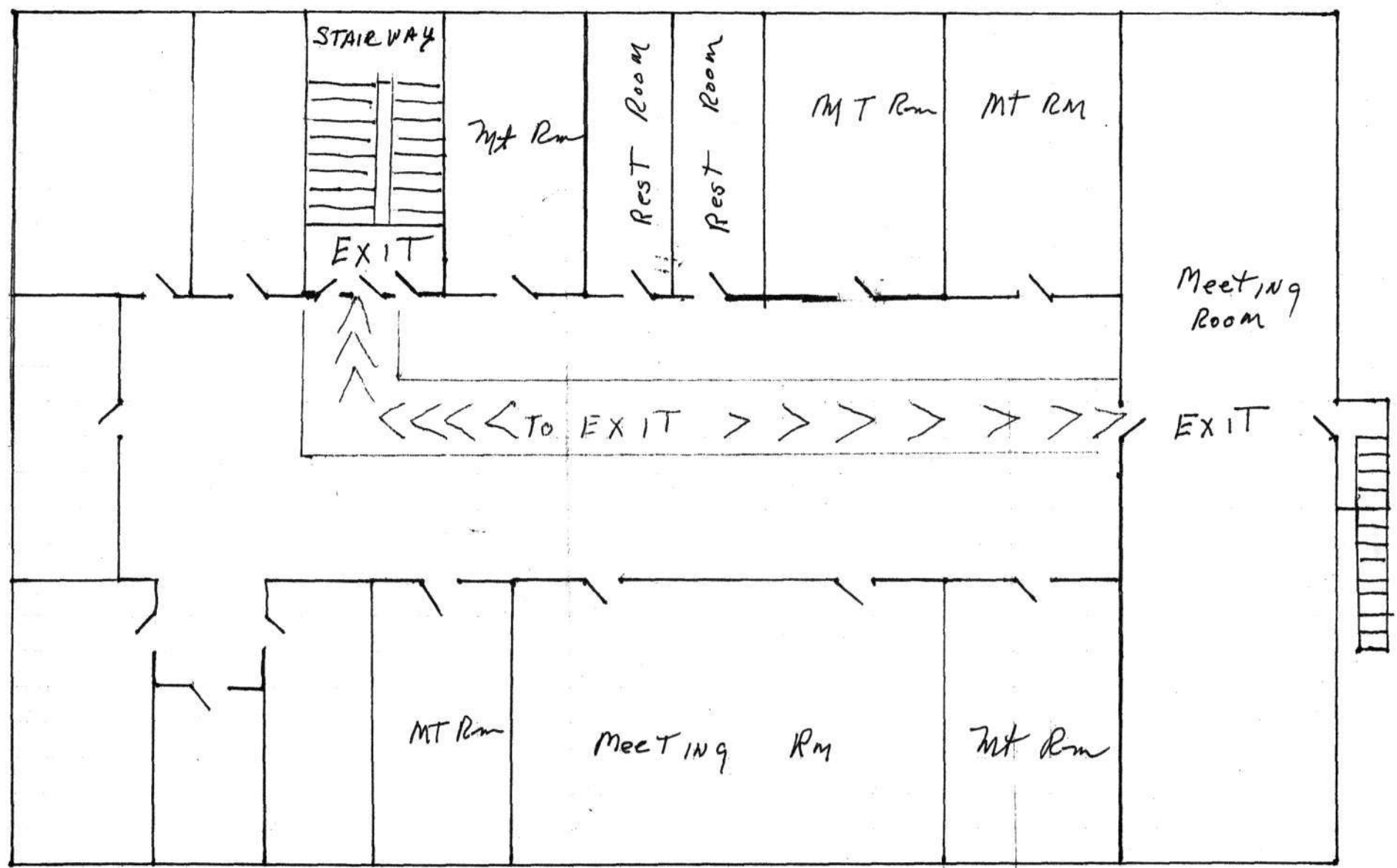
RIGHT-TIDE-ELEVATION
FACING HOBSONS AVE.

ADDITION
ST. DOMINIC'S SCHOOL
BALTIMORE, MD.
REV. J. B. MANLEY, PASTOR

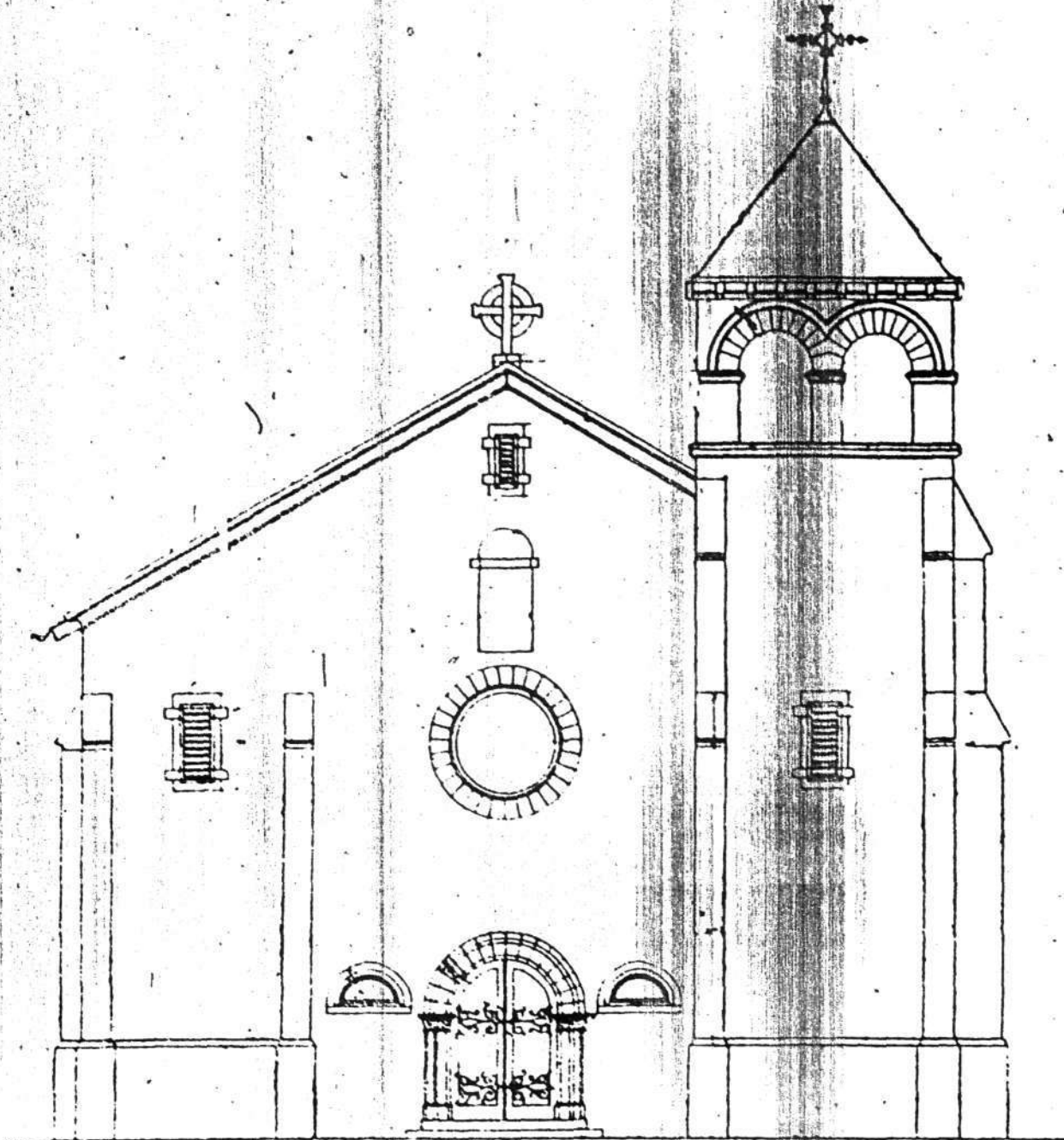
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St. Dominic's Catholic Church



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Ground will be broken for the new St. Dominic's Church, which will be situated in Belvedere Park, Hamilton, on the Harford road, next week. It is expected that the chancel portion of the church will be completed so that services can be held in the new structure on Easter Sunday.

The bids for the new structure were opened yesterday by the building committee, and were as follows: John Stack

The new church was designed by Architect T. George Carroll. It is to be 50 by 100 feet and will be of Norman design. It will seat 400 persons.

The exterior of the church is to be completed, but the front half of the interior is to be left unfinished, to be used for class purposes and entertainments, pending the growth of the congregation and the erection of the Sisters' school and parish hall.

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BY MORNING, MAY 6, 1907.

CARDINAL BRAVES PAIN

Has Toothache, But Lays Cornerstone At Hamilton.

GREAT DAY FOR THE VILLAGE

Band And Delegations Escort The Prelate To Site Of St. Dominic's Church.

Hamilton saw its greatest day yesterday, when the cornerstone of St. Dominic's Catholic Church was laid.

Although he was suffering intensely from an aching tooth, Cardinal Gibbons moved the pain to be the principal figure of the laying of the cornerstone. Dr. Charles O'Donovan visited the Cardinal last evening and found him somewhat relieved. The Cardinal's jaw was badly swollen from the tooth.

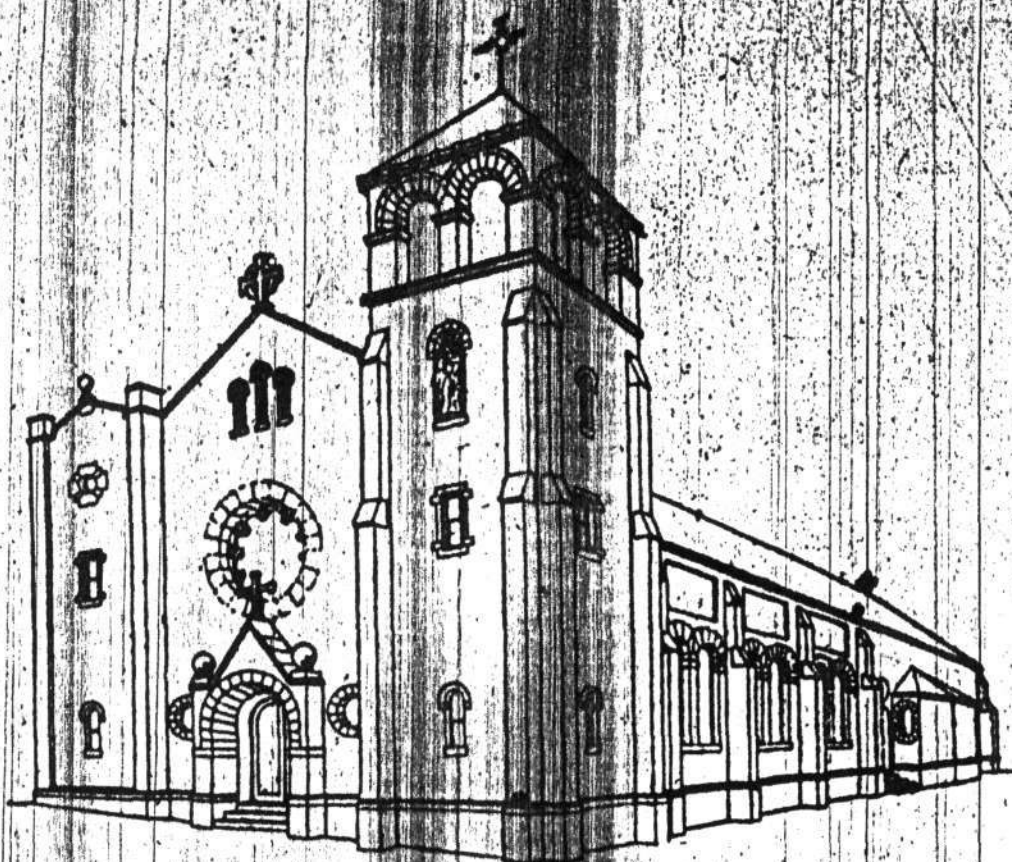
At least 2,000 persons, besides the congregation of the new church and the people who attended because the Cardinal was there, filled the Harford road cars all the afternoon. The avenues of Hamilton were crowded, many of those attending taking the opportunity of seeing the advantages of homebuilding in that suburb.

St. Dominic's is the first Catholic Church ever established in Hamilton, the people of that faith having worshiped at St. Joseph's Church, at Neckar, on the Belair road, and in churches in the city. The event of laying a cornerstone was, therefore, one of great interest, and many have pledged themselves to join the congregation of the new church. Rev. John B. Shanley, who will be pastor of the parish, has been conducting masses in Hamilton Hall, near the site of the new church.

Throng About The Walls.

As originally intended, the services of the cornerstone laying were to have been held at 10 A. M., but that hour not being convenient to the Cardinal the ceremonies were postponed to the afternoon. Long before the hour appointed the people began to arrive, clustering around the unfinished

HANDSOME NEW EDIFICE FOR SUBURB



ST. DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

churches of St. Martin's, St. James, Sts. Philip and James and St. Gregory's.

After the ceremonies the Cardinal, accompanied by Col. F. W. Kerchner, drove to the home of Mr. John N. Kunkel, where he and the other members of the clergy were entertained at dinner.

The ceremonies were in general charge of Mr. G. A. Schelstedt, who headed the committee of arrangements.

Dr. George Wegefarth and Dr. G. E. C. Vogler, of Evergreen Lawn, called on the Cardinal to pay their respects on behalf of that community. Messrs. William McAl-

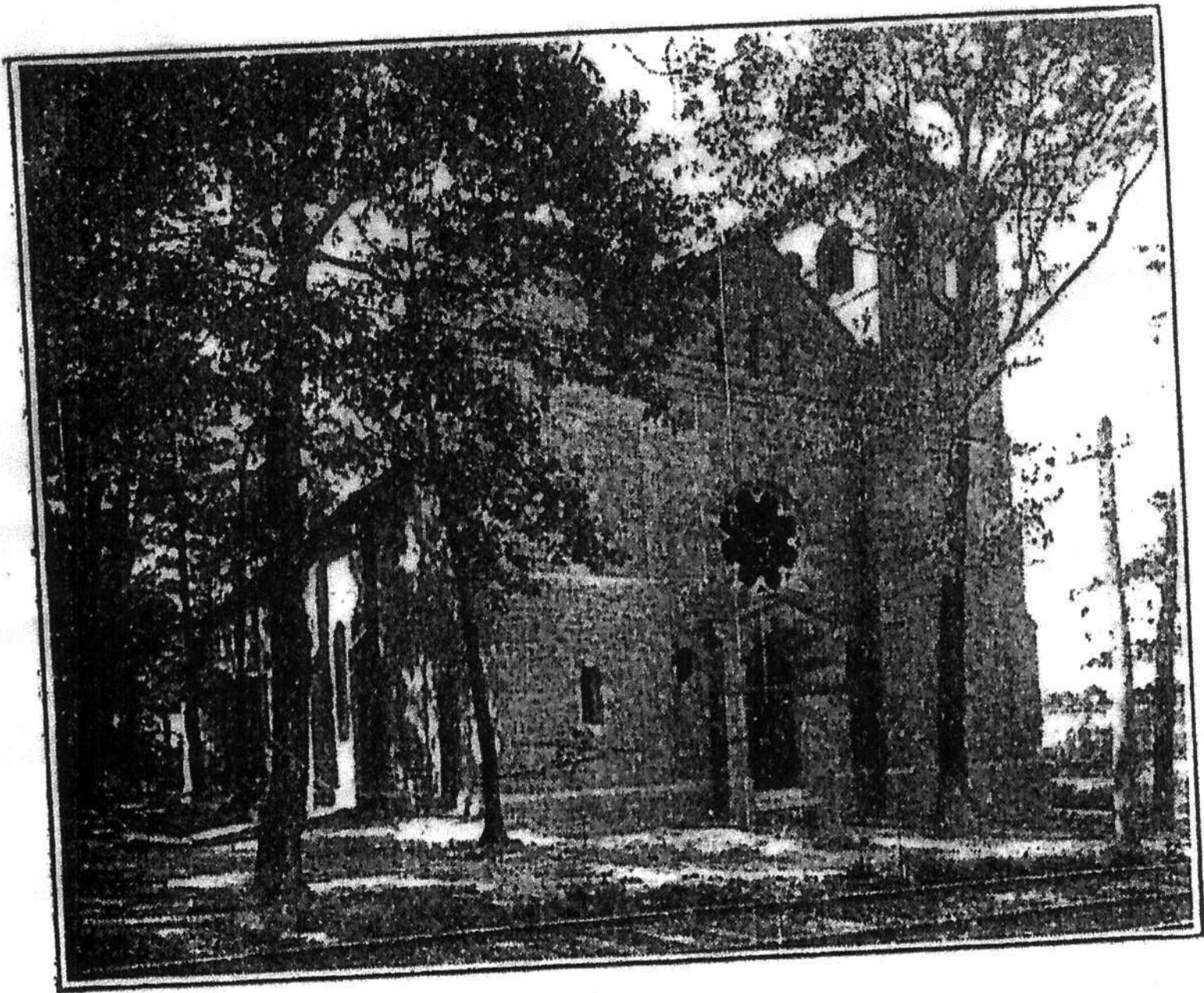
FROM THE PEOPLE

**Letters From Readers Of The Sun
On Subjects Of Interest.**

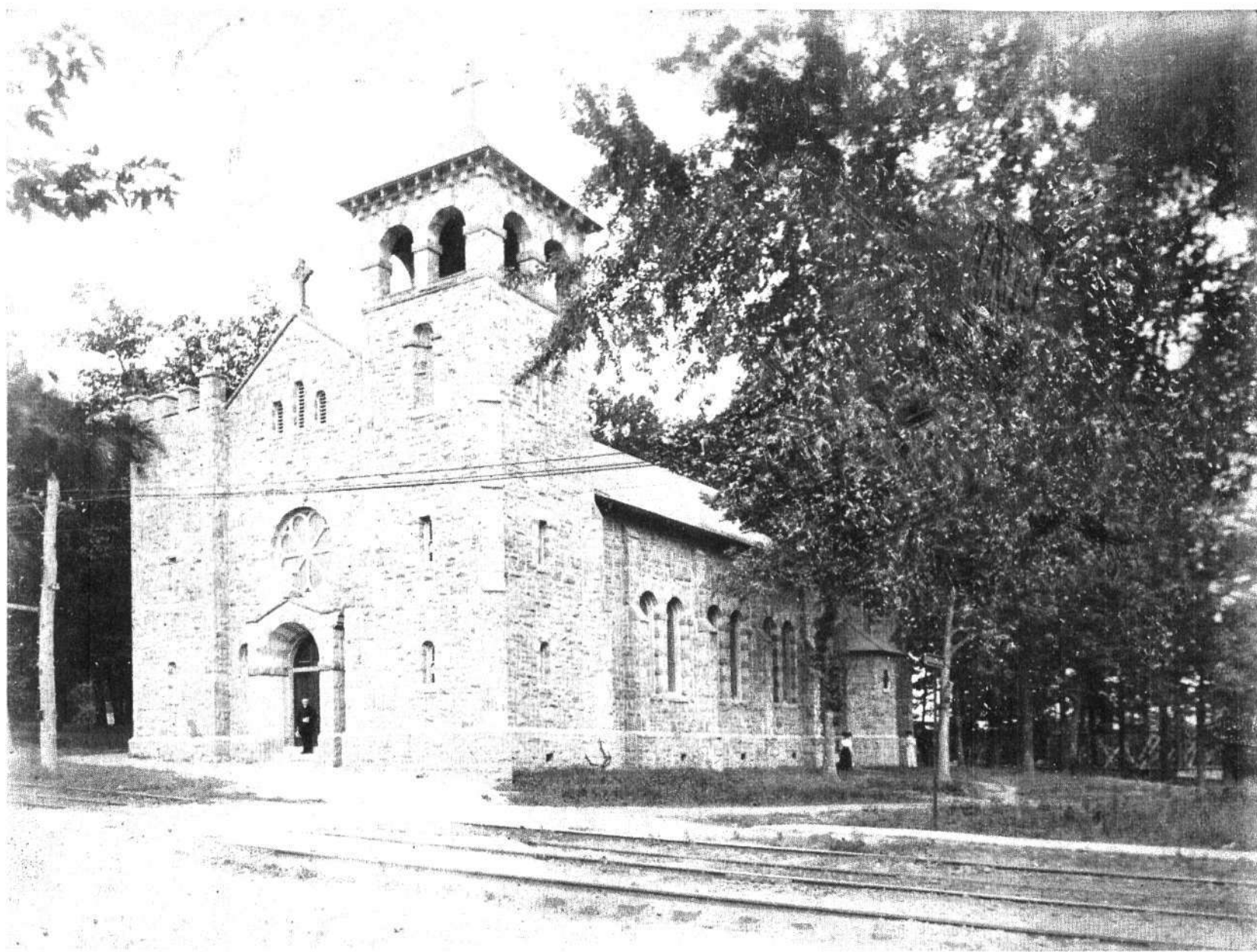
AN EMERGENCY WARD NEEDED

**An Appeal For Establishment Of
One At Locust Point — Section
Where It Is Urgently Required.**

St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Baltimore City, MD — B-5133
At time of dedication -- "A Handsome New Edifice for Suburb," Baltimore Sun, 6 May 1907.



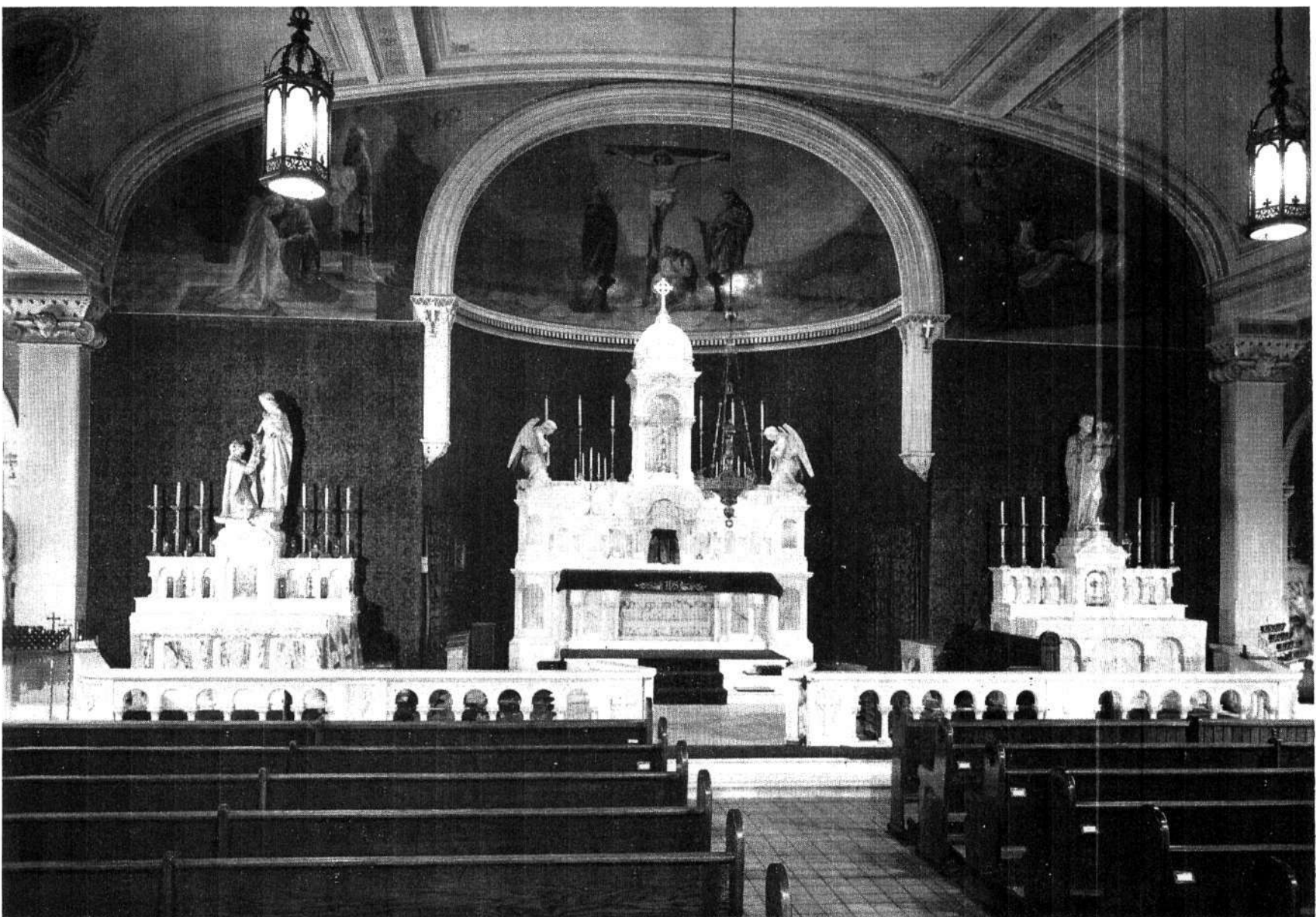
**ST. DOMINIC'S CHURCH,
LAFORD ROAD.**



SAINT DOMINIC'S CHURCH • 1907

St. Dominic's Catholic Church and Rectory, Baltimore City, MD — pre-1956 — B-5/33

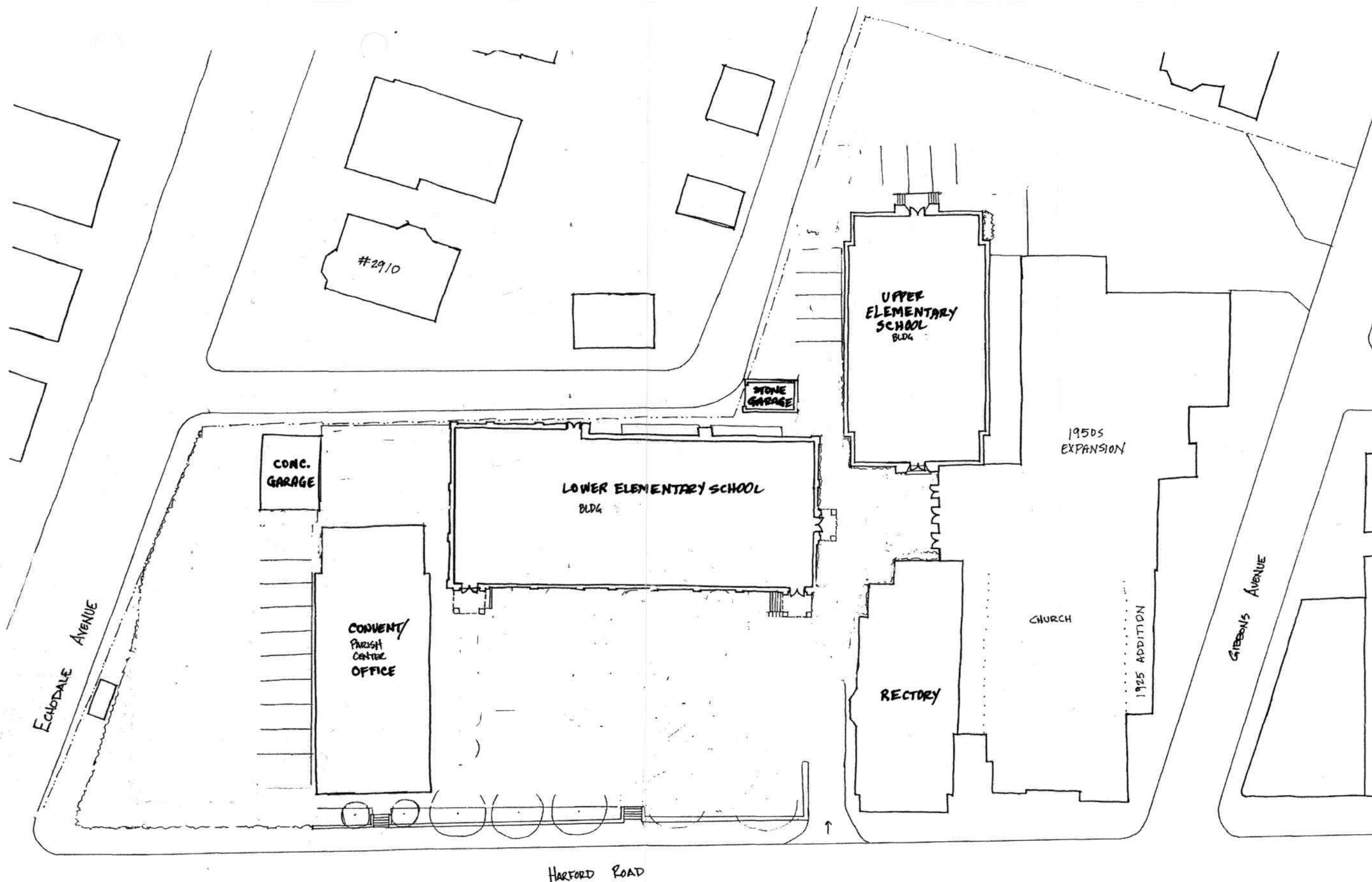




St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Baltimore City, MD – Early 20th century – B-5733



St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Baltimore City, MD - Upper Elementary School Building - B-5133



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HORD COPLAN MACHT, INC.
ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING
INTERIOR DESIGN

750 E. Pratt Street Suite 1100

Baltimore MD 21202

410 837 7311

410 837 6530 fax

SAINT DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

5300-5310 HARFORD ROAD
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

DATE: 03.22.06

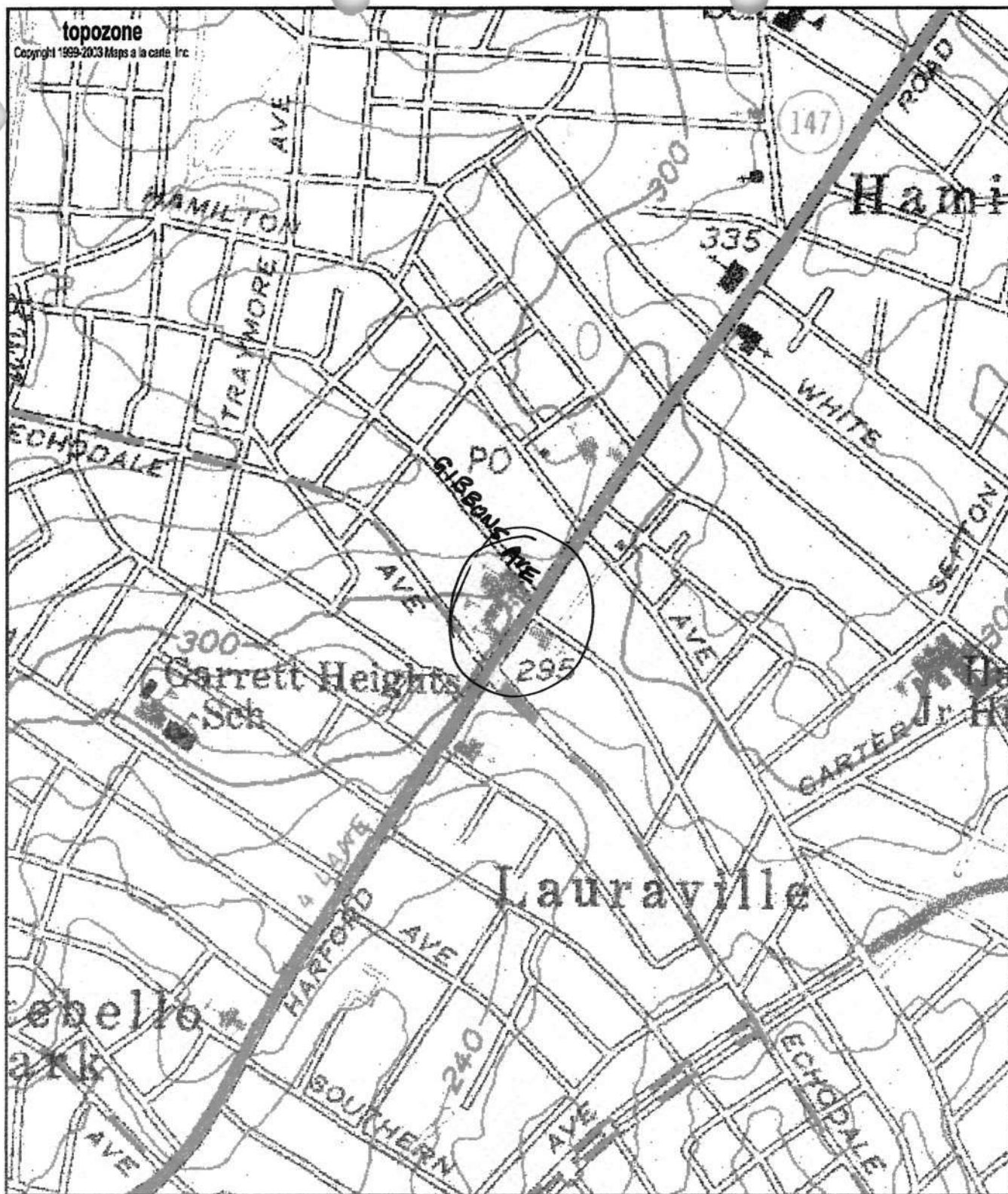
SCALE: NTS

MODIFICATIONS: 10/06 LSW

SHEET TITLE
SITE PLAN

↑
NORTH

B-5133



UTM 18 365304E 4356676N (NAD27)

Saint Dominics Roman Catholic Church, USGS Baltimore East (MD)
Quadrangle

Projection is UTM Zone 18 NAD83 Datum

M*
G
M=-11.298
G=-0.991

B-5133



St Dominic's Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

L J Wingate

8/06

056 NNN1 003 09.07.06 NEG1---

Looking south on Hartford Road, showing
church campus in context.

1/36



St Dominic's Cath Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate 8/06

05.5 NNNN 00.5 00.07.06 NE00----

Looking north along Hartford Road from
in front of Convent / Parish offices

2/36



B-5133

St Dominic's Cath. Church
Baltimore

L. J. Wingate 8/06

056 NNN1 000 02.07.06 NEG#----

Front facade (1907) with 1925 addition
at right. Harford Road @ corner off
Gibbons Ave.

3/36



St Dominic's Cath Church
Baltimore

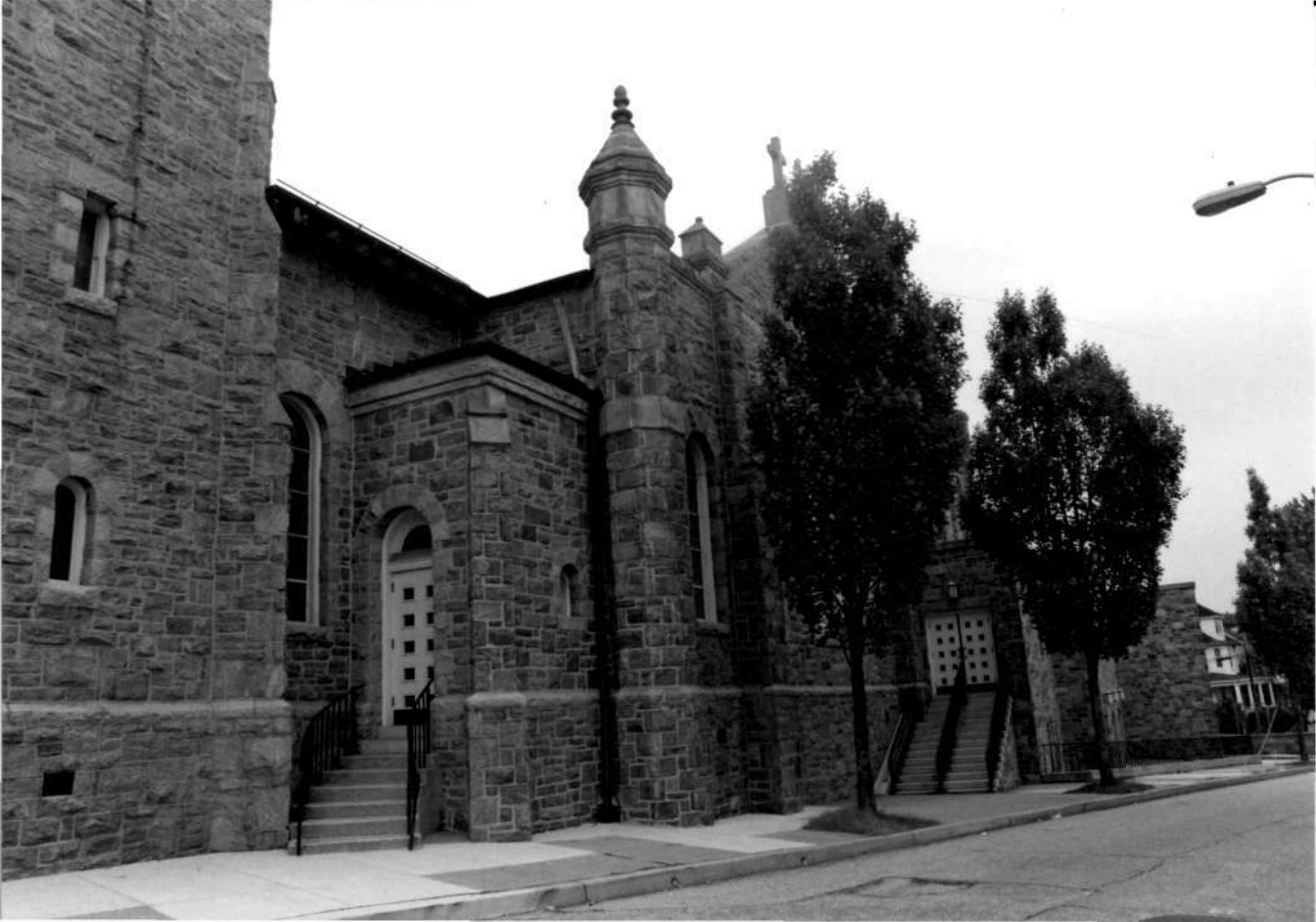
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LJ Wingate 8/06

Rectory adjacent to church

4/36



St Dominic's Cath Church
Baltimore

B-5133

0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

LJ Wingate 8/06

Gibbons Ave ^(north) side of church

5/86



St Dominic's Cath. Church
Baltimore

B-5133

L J Wingate 8/06

056 NNN1 005 02.07.06 NEG#----

Rear of 1950s expansion of church
and, at night, rear of Upper Elem.
School

6/36



St Dominic's Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

03.5 NNNN 061 09.07.06 PHOTO
LT Wingate 8/06

1950's expansion of church at left and
two rear additions to Rectory at right.



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

L J Wingate 8/06

053 NNNH 02:5 09.07.06 N:GB---

Original portion of church under barrel
vault. 1925 expansion is beyond vault
and pier (at left)

8/36



St Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LT Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 021 02.07.06 NEGB----

Original (1907) portion of church under
barrel vault. 1925 expansion south
toward Rectory to right of Ionic pier.



St Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 027 09.07.06 NEB#---

1950s westward expansion of Church

10/36



B-5133

St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

L.J. Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 025 00.07.06 NE011----

North wall of church

11/36



0055 MNNH 0056 000,000,000 MNNH . . .

B-5133

St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

L J Wingate 8/06

Rectory

12/36



—HCHN 58°28'00 100 NNNN 550

St. Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

Rectory @ left, church @ right



St. Dominic Catholic Church - B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

053 NNNN 029 09.07.06 NEG#---

Rectory stair hall and entry vestibule

14/36



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

055 NNNN 000 00.07.06 NEUTR

LS Wingate 8/06

Upper Elem. School w/ 1950s expansion
of church at right



St Dominic Catholic Church B-5/33
Baltimore

LT Wingate 8/06

Rear and ^{south} side of Upper Elem School
at left. Stone garage and Lower
Elem School rear at right

16/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church 13-5133
Baltimore

0000 0000 00.00.00 0000

L.J. Wingate 8/06

Rear of Upper Elem School
(West end)

17/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church 13-5/33
Baltimore

-----#1111N 90°20'00 550 NNNN 550

LJ Wingate 8/06

Upper Elem. School stair landing

18/36



St Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

053 NNNN 0.51 09.07.06 NEGB

Upper Elem School 2nd floor hallway
2nd floor hallway

19/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

056 NNN1 002 00.07.06 NNN1---

Upper Elem School Classroom

20/36



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate 8/06

056 NNN1 003 09.07.06 HEBB---

East elevation of Lower Elem School

21/36



1919

St Dominic Catholic Church 13-5133
Baltimore
LJ Wingate 8/06

05.5 NNNN 041 09.07.06 NEGB---

North end of Lower Elem School



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5/33

LJ Wingate 8/06

05.5 - NNNN 040 09.07.06 NEGB---

Lower Elem School stair hall

23/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church B-5133
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

05.5 NNNN 0.57 09.07.06 NEBB---

Lower Elem School

3rd floor

classroom hallway



S+ Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore
LT Wingate 8/06

B-5/33

05.5 NNNN 04.5 09.07.06 NEGIB----

Convent / Parish Offices and Lower School

25/36



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore
LJ Wingate 8/06

B-5/33

053 NNNN 049 09.07.06 NEGIB---

Convent / Parish Offices

26/36



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

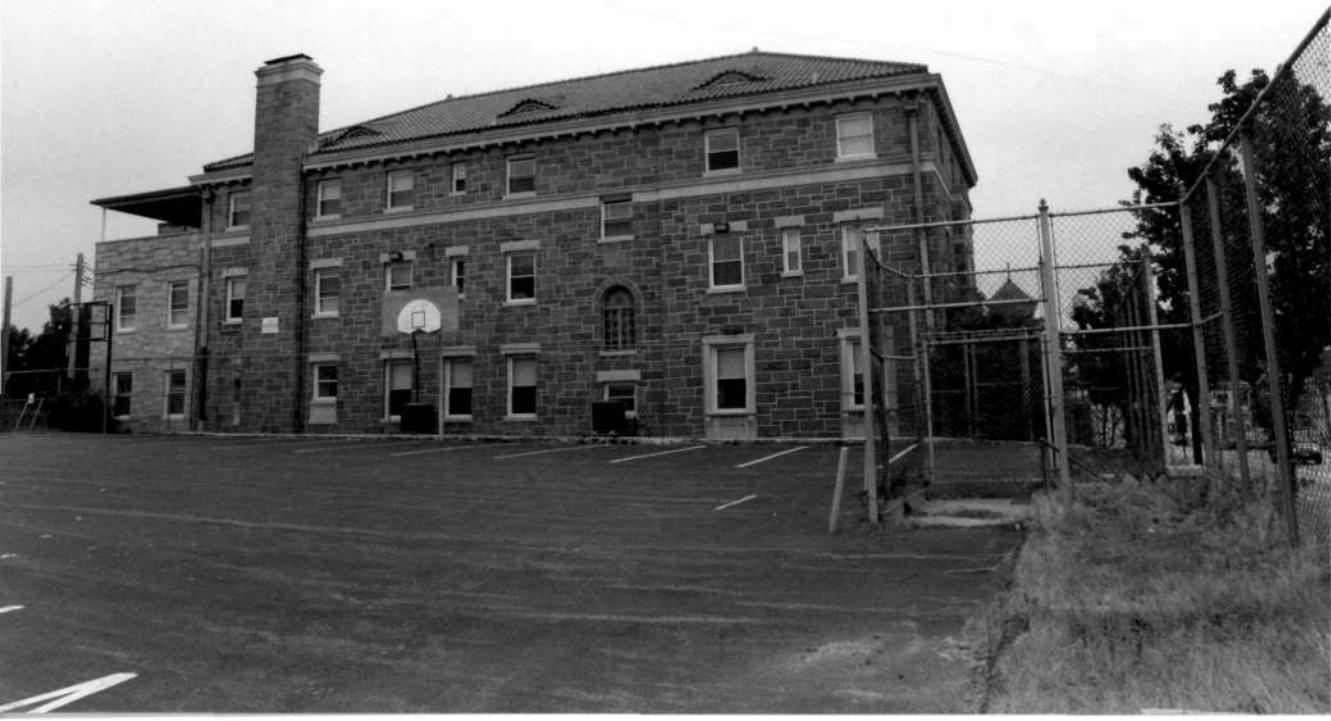
B-5133

-----#EEN 90°20'00" S000 NNNN S50

LT Wingate 8/06

Convent/ Parish Offices - east doorway

27/36



St Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate 8/06

053 NNNN 047 09.07.06 NEGII---

Convent / Parish Offices - south corner

28/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 04:5 09.07.06 NEGB----

Non-contributing concrete block garage
at SW corner of campus

Alley extends north behind Lower School

29/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

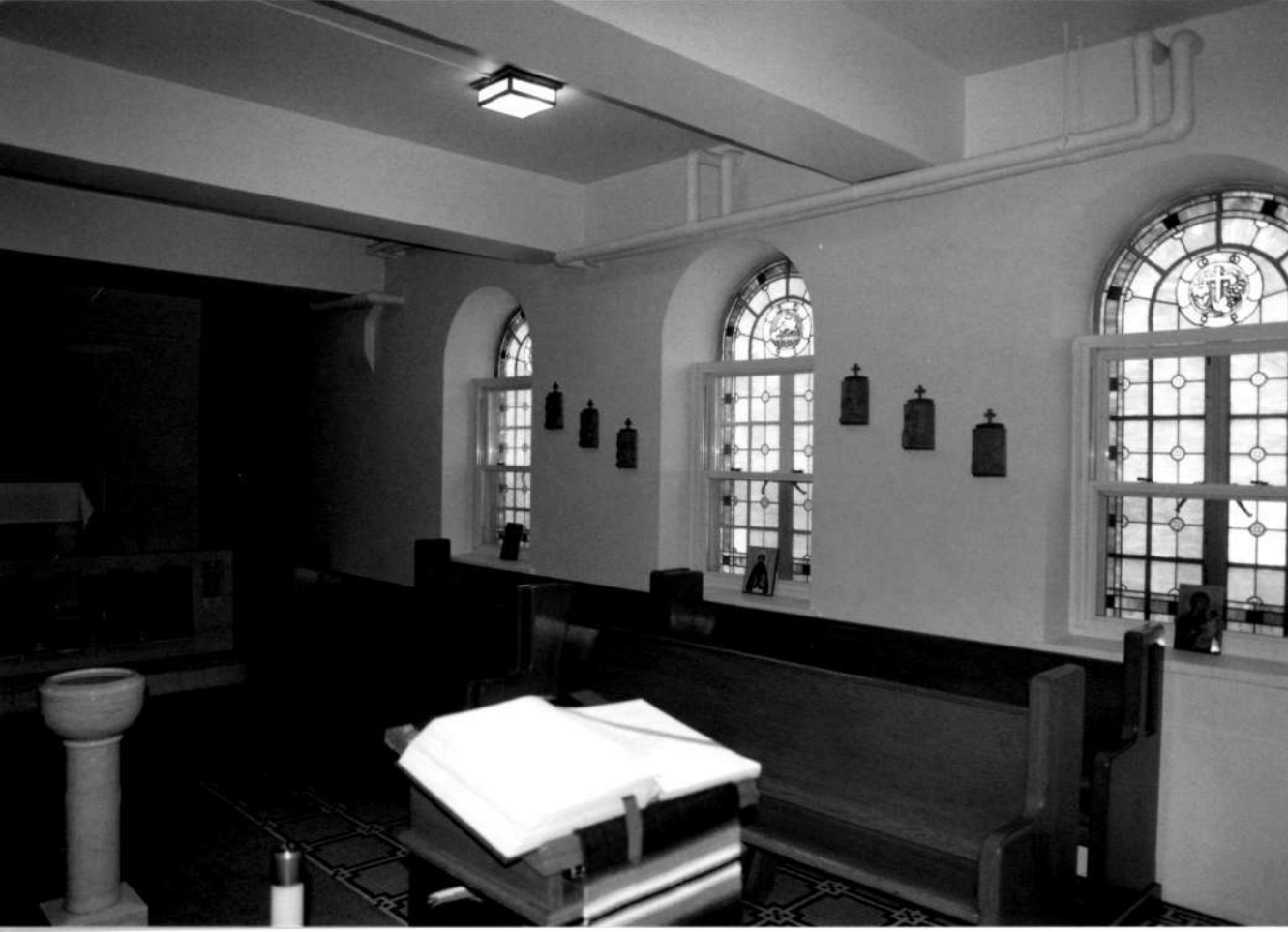
B-5133

L.J. Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 012 09.07.06 NEHB——

Current entrance to Parish Office
3 arched windows of chapel

30/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5/33

LJ Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 017 09.07.06 NEGII---

Small chapel in Convent / Parish Offices

31/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate

055 NNNN 007 09.07.06 NNNN—

Convent / Parish Offices
Dining Room / Meeting Room
with kitchen and addition beyond
leaded glass, built-in, corner cabinet 32/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church
Baltimore

B-5133

LJ Wingate

8/06

-----#EEN 98'20'00 600 NNNN SSB

Convent / Parish Offices

Once a back door -

Block at left is rear addition to rusticated stone and tile
wall floor of original Convent

Looking through kitchen to meeting room beyond

33/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church

B-5133

Baltimore

L.J. Wingate 8/06

—41111 90°20'00" 510 NNNN 550

Convent / Parish Offices

Staircase

34/36



St. Dominic Catholic Church B-5/33
Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06 ——— 150N 90°20'00" 510 NNNN 550

Convent / Parish Offices

Looking east in 2nd floor hallway



St. Dominic Catholic Church

B-5133

Baltimore

LJ Wingate 8/06

055 NNNN 011 09.07.06 NEIGH---

Convent / Parish Offices

2nd floor bathroom w/ original tile and tub

36/36